

THE CAMPUS

Student Newspaper of Middlebury College

Vol. 81, No. 1

Middlebury, Vermont

September 20, 1985



The new dorm should be habitable by fall of 1985. (Photo by Michelle Marie Millin)

College begins intense construction

By Lindsey Killey

As part of the \$80 million campaign for the improvement of Middlebury College, many renovations are in progress.

A new dorm is under construction between the Chateau and the SDU's. This dorm will house 120 students. A majority of the rooms will be singles, but there will be a few two-room doubles. Barring unforeseen delays, the building should be completed by the beginning of the next school year.

Accompanying this new dorm will be a new enlarged parking lot behind the Chateau. Vehicles will enter the lot through the back, near the SDU's. The roadway out to Battell Hall and Wright Theatre will be replaced by grass, thereby alleviating anticipated traffic problems. The planned completion date for the lot is November.

Lower Carr Hall is currently being renovated to accommodate the new needs of Parton Health Center. The Health Center, which originally occupied both floors, will eventually occupy only the first floor of Carr Hall because a new contract with Porter Hospital will lessen the in-patient needs of the center. The new health

center will contain two single occupancy in-patient rooms and all administrative rooms of the center. The new Parton Health Center will open up for services on Oct. 1, if construction goes as planned. Second floor rooms will be converted to faculty and counselor offices when the health center moves out.

The Hillcrest dorm, which currently houses fifty students, may be removed to make new room for a new student center. The college spent last summer interviewing five of the country's most outstanding architects to design this building. When an architect is chosen, he will call on the students to discuss plans and ideas for the project. Construction of the Student Center is set for May.

The College is also in the process of renovating the schoolhouse situated between the College and town. The College recently purchased this schoolhouse from the town of Middlebury. The building will house departmental offices and possibly a theatre.

Construction of a new arts center is also in the planning, though no location has been determined or whether the building will have music or art facilities or both.

Committee on the curriculum proposes trimester system

By Lee Higham

Broad-reaching curricular changes are possible as soon as the fall of 1986. A proposed system of trimesters may be substituted for the existing calendar. The freshman and sophomore curriculums are also undergoing examination to define their aims. The report assesses the foundations requirement and the possibility of required senior work. "Greater integration of academic and residential life is imperative," according to the September 1985 report of the Special Committee on the Curriculum.

The report addresses the problem of curricular fragmentation. At the same time it acknowledges the existence of strong autonomous departments. The report calls for the continued support of these strong independent departments while directing attention to some existent curricular weaknesses.

This report proposes a revision of the current calendar. Some faculty argue in favor of the opportunity Winter term provides for innovative courses. Others argue against the "perceived lack of academic rigor" in many winter term courses and note the deterioration of student study habits perhaps as a result of the large amounts of free time students have during winter term.

The Committee unfavorably reviewed the idea of a semester calendar (4-4). This system decreases the number of weeks of instruction during the academic year. It also decreases the number of courses elected by a student.

According to the Committee report, a trimester calendar offers curricular innovation and flexibility without the shortcomings of the Winter term. This system allows students to take as many courses as they do currently, nine, while retaining the same calendar year. The Committee proposes that the trimester calendar with nine week terms in which students take three courses per term be implemented for the 1987-88 academic year.

The report states that the material covered in the trimester system will be roughly equivalent to that presently treated in the current semester calendar. A proposed revised daily schedule increases the meeting times of classes to 65 minute periods of instruction for Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes and 100 minute periods for Tuesday-Thursday classes to make the hours spent in class equivalent to the current total.

The Committee's concern is to maintain the same number of contact hours that occurs under the present calendar. An expected advantage of the trimester system is that students and faculty will be able to focus their energies more effectively when taking three courses per term rather than four.

Criticisms of the proposed trimester system include how students who participate in programs at institutions using the two-semester calendar, such as juniors abroad, will make up the one credit they find themselves short. Missing two trimesters will

mean missing six credits instead of the present five credits, one semester and a Winter term. The trimester system will also disadvantage February freshmen who will become March freshmen under the proposed system. Perhaps the applicant pool of March freshmen will dwindle under the new system.

"I have real problems with the trimester calendar," said Erica Wonnacott, dean of students. She cited the problems students from distant states will face if they want to go home for two weeks interspersed throughout the year as scheduled by the trimester calendar. Language students are disadvantaged by the two week breaks in the trimester calendar which interrupt the development of their language skills. The trimester also disposes of the intensive language study during Winter term of freshman year.

Wonnacott suggested as an alternative to keep Winter term and implement as does Colorado College an intensive course which counts towards students' majors.

Steven Rockefeller, dean of the College and associate professor of religion, said about Winter term, "We've got to make some adjustment" in the January curriculum. He said that between grading exams after first semester and preparing for Winter term, the faculty has almost no time for outside research and writing.

The report seeks to improve the intellectual community at the College by proposing several changes in the

continued on page 10

Faculty turnover is unusually high

By Marc Solomon

This year Middlebury College has had to fill more than 50 faculty positions, most of them temporarily. Robert Gleason, dean of the Faculty, attributes the high figure partly to the fact that "a larger number than usual of professors have won fellowships."

Fellowship recipients include Elizabeth Endicott-West, professor of History, Barbara Bellows, assistant professor of History, John Hunisak, professor of Art, Murray Dry, professor of Political Science, Jay Parini, associate professor of English, George Todd, professor of Music, David Napier, Dana Faculty Fellow in Art and Anthropology, and Gary Meyers, assistant professor of Political Science. Endicott-West, Bellows, Hunisak, and Dry received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Parini from the National Council of Learned Studies, Todd from the Sloan Foundation, Napier from the American Institute of Indian

Studies, and Meyers from the German Marshall Society.

Other faculty members who are not returning this semester or this year include those who were granted leave by the College, (either professional or familial), those who were not asked to return, those who have retired, and those who have resigned. In the latter category are Elizabeth-Endicott West, who has accepted a position in the department of History at Harvard University, and Bruce Sagan, who has accepted a position in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania. David

continued on page 5

INSIDE

Acconci sculpture mistreated
page 11

Dr. Q talks baseball
page 18

NEWS



Wendie Pulse is the new Parton Health physician. (Photo by Julie Soper)

College enters contract with Porter Medical Center

By Chris Reed

On June 14 the College entered into a contract with Porter Medical Center in Middlebury whereby the hospital will provide physician services to Middlebury students 24 hours a day through the emergency room and two hours a day, five days a week, at Parton Health Center. The contract has enabled the College to reduce health care services provided by Parton Health Center, saving the College approximately \$80,000 per year. The new health care system provides for more thorough general emergency care than the previous one, but less campus in-patient care.

Under the new policy students are advised to go directly to Porter Medical Center in the case of a serious medical emergency. (The inset of the College Directory is incorrect with concern to this matter). Both ambulances and Campus Security vehicles are available for transportation of students to the hospital. Students who are ill or noncritically injured should proceed to Parton Health Center.

Nurses can handle, and have handled in the past, some medical emergencies in Parton by talking with a doctor over the telephone. Now serious medical emergencies will be handled at Porter Hospital. A physician will be

at the hospital 24 hours a day. Formerly a doctor has always been on call but not always present.

The health center will continue to offer in-patient services, but in a reduced capacity. The new center, which is currently under construction in lower Carr Hall, will contain two single occupancy rooms and an examining table. The old center had six double occupancy rooms.

There will now be at least two nurses on duty daily and one on nights. Formerly there were three during the day, two in the evenings, and one at night. A nurse practitioner, who specializes in women's health care, will be on duty from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. each day starting October 1.

Advanced study grants fellowships are available

Juniors who are considering advanced study abroad after graduation should consider applying for one of the many fellowships, scholarships, or grants offered through the College or available to candidates at large. These awards are provided by foundations, private or civic organizations, corporations, educational institutions, and other groups and usually consist of monetary funding for unspecified study in specific countries.

Because application procedures for grants are often complex, the College encourages students to begin planning early in their junior year. Deadlines are usually in the fall of the senior year.

Thousands of foreign and domestic organizations offer grant, fellowship and scholarship assistance each year. The following is a list of the major grants available to Middlebury students, who to contact, and the current deadline for applications:

- Fulbright Grants, Vice President Edward Knox, Sept. 28
- Marshall Scholarships, Professor Stanley Bates, Oct. 22
- Rhodes Scholarships, Professor Stanley Bates, Oct. 31
- Watson Fellowships, Dean Erica Wonnacott, Oct. 5
- Alliance Francaise de New York, Vice President Edward Knox, Sept. 28
- D.A.A.D. (German Academic Exchange Service), Vice President Edward Knox, Sept. 28
- Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship For Study Abroad, Dean Erica Wonnacott, March 15
- American Scandinavia Foundation Fellowships and Grants, Dean Erica Wonnacott, Nov. 1

Interested students should also consult *The Harvard Guide to Grants* and *The Fellowship Guide for Students at Yale*. Both books are available at the Career Counseling and Planning center.

College Shorts

By Eric Smith

Amherst

John William Ward, former president of Amherst College and chairman of a celebrated Massachusetts anti-corruption commission bearing his name, committed suicide August 3 in New York City. Ward was a strong believer in individualism and the role of the individual in American society. In May of 1972, as President of Amherst, he organized an illegal sit-in by 500 students and faculty outside the gates of Westover Air Force Base to protest the renewed escalation of the Vietnam War and was subsequently arrested. Ward also led the College into its first years of coeducation after more than a century of existence as an all-male institution.

Harvard

On July 26 Harvard University adopted a policy that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual preference, physical handicaps, or political beliefs as well as all types of discrimination prohibited at institutions receiving federal funds. The new anti-discrimination policy marks the first time the university has adopted a sweeping policy that affects all applicants, students, faculty, and employees. The move came in response to a campaign by gay activists over the past year to institute such a change in the school's policy.

Yale

The Connecticut State Appellate Court has upheld a lower court's order forbidding *Yale Literary Magazine* from using Yale University's name in its title because the publication had breached University rules. Yale had argued that the magazine, now published by the American Literary Society, was no longer run by students and printed the work of few student writers. In addition, the University charged, the magazine was operating outside of regulations for student organizations. The publication, now privately owned, had previously been a Yale undergraduate organization.

Dartmouth

Dartmouth College has placed a sorority on probation for failing to intervene on behalf of homosexual students who were allegedly doused with beer and ridiculed at an Alpha Chi Omega sorority party. Billed as "Live Aid ... A Tribute to Rock Hudson," the dance offended members of the Gay Student Association, who said they had attended as a show of unity. The sorority was told by a dean of the college to plan a program to develop an understanding of differences in the campus community.

Late visa delays Moscow students

By Chris Reed

Difficulty in procuring a visa for Kevin Moss, director of the Middlebury School in the Soviet Union and visiting assistant professor of Russian, resulted in the postponement from August 31 to September 13 of the departure of fourteen students scheduled to attend the Pushkin Institute this fall.

Although the Soviet Union issued visas for the students more than one week before the planned departure date, Moss, who was to lead the group, was unable to obtain one until September 11, after three weeks of negotiations between the College and Washington and Moscow officials.

According to Thomas Beyer, associate professor of Rus-

sian and acting director of the Language Schools, Olin Robison, president of the College, "was very involved on a personal level" in the negotiations, which involved "colleagues at the Pushkin Institute, people in the Ministry of Higher Education in Moscow, U.S. diplomatic members, and members of the U.S. Department of State." Beyer expressed his view that "the Pushkin Institute ... and Middlebury were working together in every way possible to have the visa issued," noting that "the Institute cannot guarantee that the Soviet government will issue a visa."

Beyer does not think that their late arrival will cause academic problems for the students because they are enrolled in small classes with specialized teachers who can

adjust their schedules to make up for the lost time.

Of the seventeen groups of Middlebury students which have participated in the Moscow program, only one other, that for the fall of 1983, has had to delay departure because of visa problems. In this case problems with obtaining a visa for Maria Lunk, former director of the School in the Soviet Union, were compounded by the simultaneous controversy surrounding the Korean airliner tragedy.

Despite the delay, Beyer is "delighted that this year's group has been able to depart." He called the positive outcome a "healthy sign for a continued relationship with the Pushkin Institute."

Why Middlebury Should Divest

Withdrawal of investments from companies doing business in South Africa has become the only reasonable course of action for those who believe in democracy and human rights. The growing movement for divestment is part of a broad strategy for pressuring South Africa to use what may be its last chance for a peaceful transition to a non-racist society.

Why focus on apartheid and South Africa? Apartheid is a unique system of constitutionalized racial domination, directly modeled on Nazi law. Twenty-two million black South Africans (73 percent of the population) are denied citizenship and all political rights. They are forced to resettle in "homelands" comprising 13 percent of the country's land area. The resulting system of migratory labor tears families apart, while providing the white minority with an indispensable source of cheap labor. "Pass Laws" regulate non-whites' daily movements. The South African regime's repressive laws are backed by frequent police brutality against people of all races, harsh suppression of political opposition, and other forms of state violence.

Americans have a special responsibility in South Africa. U.S. companies provide 20 percent of foreign investments in South Africa, accounting for 70 percent of its computer, 45 percent of its oil, and 33 percent of its automobile market — strategic economic sectors vital to the maintenance of the apartheid regime. A country like the U.S., itself struggling to emerge from a history of unjust race relations, has a special responsibility to avoid supporting so outrageous a system of racial domination as apartheid. Although support of apartheid is offensive to decent people everywhere, it is a special affront to those in the U.S. who have been victims of America's own racial history.

Aren't U.S. companies a positive force in South Africa? The Sullivan Principles call for voluntary nondiscrimination within U.S. companies. Few companies fully comply, and investors such as Middlebury do not and perhaps cannot insure compliance. Even if fully implemented by the companies which endorse them, such principles would help only four-tenths of one percent of the black workforce. They have no effect on the principal political, social and economic aspects of apartheid, which oppresses all non-whites, including those employed by U.S. companies. The conditions of black South Africans have in fact worsened in the last ten years.

American companies in South Africa must obey local law, which prohibits anti-apartheid activities. They pay taxes which support the enforcement of apartheid, and, whether they wish to or not, they are required by law to sell strategic supplies to the South African government and its agencies, including the military and the police. By doing business there they also lend the oppressive South African regime

an air of legitimacy, as well as vital economic support. Because of these factors largely beyond their control, the presence of these companies supports rather than undermines the apartheid system. They can become a positive force for the ending of apartheid only by ceasing their operations in South Africa: a course the apartheid government fears so much that it has made advocacy of foreign divestment in South Africa a serious crime.

Won't divestment be an empty gesture? Middlebury's divesting will be no isolated act. Many other universities, foundations, churches, pension funds, cities and state governments are already divesting. The aim of these actions is the threat of total withdrawal of U.S. companies from South Africa. Congressional legislation has been introduced, seeking South Africa's economic isolation. And the U.S. divestment movement is not unique. Few countries have the capacity to replace U.S. investments in South Africa, and those countries have growing divestment movements at home. The divestment movement has direct political impact on South Africa, putting pressure on the regime, and encouraging those South Africans, of all races, who are working toward a non-racial and just society.

Won't divestment hurt South African blacks? There may be some loss of jobs in the short run. But this must be weighed against the appalling social, political and economic hardships imposed by the apartheid regime on the overwhelming majority. Apartheid is the paramount evil, destroying the lives of black South Africans. Most of the recognized black South African leaders (including Nobel laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu) have pointed out the role of foreign investment in maintaining apartheid. The Federation of South African Trade Unions (the largest group of independent black trade unions, representing nearly 150,000) was reported in the *Johannesburg Star* of July 9, 1984 as being "in full support of disinvestment and international sanctions against South Africa."

Won't divestment hurt Middlebury College? All recent studies agree that the rate of investment returns would not decline. Fluctuations can be minimized by choosing suitable alternative investments. The experience of others bears this out. It may be financially unwise for Middlebury to delay: as others divest, shares will

depreciate; as unrest increases in South Africa, so too does the risk of investing there.

Corporations give to Middlebury out of self-interest, not benevolence. They gain tax benefits, valuable ideas, promising recruits — and their options are limited. As other leading colleges and universities divest along with us, corporations will continue to provide grants because it will still be in their interest to do so. There is no evidence that divestment has done the least harm to any other universities.

Is a "political" act like divestment consistent with the educational role of the College? By endorsing the Sullivan Principles in 1978, the Middlebury College Board of Trustees acknowledged that social responsibility sets limits on financial policy. It recognized that so outrageous a system of racial domination as apartheid requires extraordinary attention, and that companies doing business in South Africa should be subject to special scrutiny. The issue facing Middlebury is not whether to oppose apartheid, but how best to attack it. Experience shows that U.S. companies doing business in South Africa help rather than undermine apartheid, by lending the regime respectability, reinforcing its economy, and providing hardware for its brutal police and military forces. Investors can have little effect on U.S. business activities in South Africa, save by a concerted effort to withdraw support from the South African economy.

Why stop at divestment? Why draw the line there? The aim of divestment is not just to separate ourselves from the evil of apartheid, but to attack it effectively. Isolated acts of refusing to accept gifts or to buy products from the companies in question do not weaken apartheid. In the context of the current international campaign, divestment threatens the South African regime, as the regime acknowledges by denouncing divestment and making its advocacy illegal.

Our target is apartheid. Our aim is not to hurt the companies doing business in South Africa. We want to redirect their business activities so as to weaken the apartheid system. That does not require us to dissociate ourselves from those companies in other ways, such as boycotts or refusing gifts. Nor is the aim of divestment to make us "morally pure." Given the widespread movement for divestment, it is the most effective means we have, in the real world of today, for contributing to the end of apartheid.

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Student Forum examines possibility of trimester system

By David C. Graham

The Student Forum began its 1985-86 year with a general overview of its plans for the upcoming year last Sunday evening in the Proctor Fireside Lounge. The Educational Council, Finance Committee and several other groups reported the findings of their previous meetings to

the Forum.

Senior Tracy Edwards, secretary of the Educational Council, reported that at its next meeting on Sept. 24, it will discuss the Special Committee on the Curriculum's presentation. The committee, which is investigating a possible change to a trimester school calendar from the present 4-1-4 term calendar, has

already presented its proposal to the Board of Trustees and the Faculty, and will reveal it to the student body next Sunday at 7 P.M.

Edwards stated that written copies of the investigation's findings and the subsequent proposal will be available in the library this week. She added, "I was opposed to the (trimester proposition) at first, but the proposal is well supported." Edwards also an-

nounced that a committee concerning the possible amendment of the curriculum is being formed to gather student opinion to make a presentation to the Trustees on Oct. 12. She invited interested students to contact her.

Forum chairman Mike Obel-Omia, a sophomore, further commented, "We need to set up some committees ... which will look into some

cost of buying a page in *The Campus*, in which he plans to run an article regarding divestment in South Africa. With the article, originally entitled "Why Cornell Should Divest," Armstrong hopes to lead the student body to a consensus about whether or not the College should divest. The Forum granted him the money, although there was some question as to whether it could draw from the

"I was opposed to the (trimester proposition) at first, but the proposal is well supported.

schools that have changed from the 4-1-4 system to the 3-3-3 and from the 3-3-3 back to the 4-1-4."

Senior Tom Michaud, head of the Finance Committee and Forum treasurer, discussed last year's budget and this year's proposed financial allocation. Michaud expects that after the money is allocated to the various groups there may be a deficit, requiring that he be given access to the Finance Committee's reserve funds.

Senior Bruce Armstrong asked the Forum for a \$20 donation to help cover the

Finance Committee budget, whereas other student organizations on campus were being asked to draw from their own budgets for the same cause.

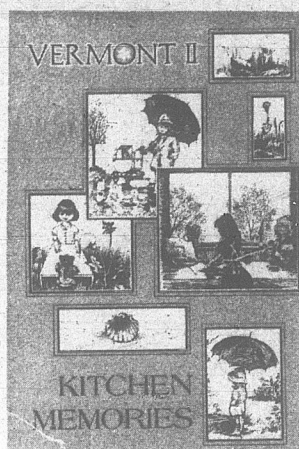
The meeting adjourned after Obel-Oomia asked the Education, Finance, Community, Food, and Student Union Committees, SCAM, and WRMC to report on their affairs at the next regular Forum meeting on Sept. 29. After the meeting Obel-Oomia commented that he was pleased with the way the meeting went; it was his first as chairman.

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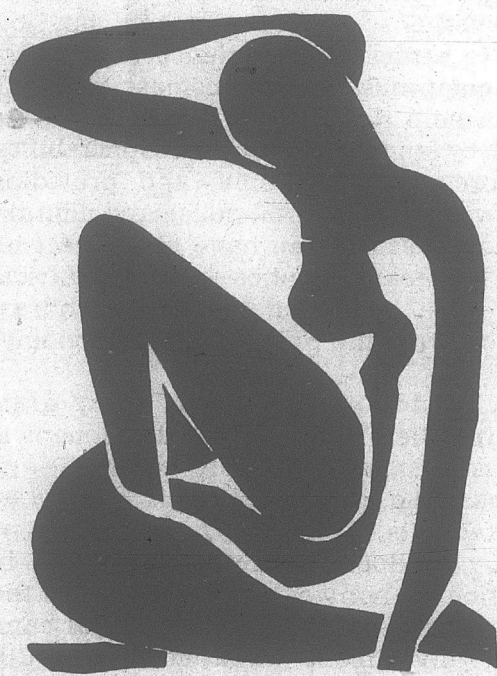


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Faculty Members Come and Go

continued from page 1

Audretsch, assistant professor of Economics, has been granted professional leave to attend the Institute of International Management in Berlin.

According to Gleason the College searches for instructors who are willing to work for a year or less when positions open up. To recruit instructors chairmen of the various departments must obtain authorization from the President of the Teaching Resources Committees to add new members to their departments. The chairmen then write letters to strong institutions which produce Ph.D.'s in their fields and advertise in scholarly journals for applicants. Eventually a few of the applicants are selected from the group for interviews on campus, and a selection is made from among them. Dean Gleason explained that "the process is a very hard one, and it is sometimes difficult to find outstanding faculty to serve for such a short time."

Three new permanent positions have been filled this year. All three are Dana Faculty Fellows, requiring that the replacements teach in more than one department. John Gilkeson will teach in the departments of American Literature and Civilization, and American Studies. Robert Schine, who specializes in Judaic studies, will teach in the departments of Religion and Classics, and Stephen Homick, who specializes in Latin American History, will teach in the departments of History and Spanish.

Largely because of the number of fellowships offered to longtime members of the faculty, many temporary and some permanent department head positions have changed hands. Glenn Andres is the acting chairman of the department of Art. Richard Cornwall is the acting chairman of the department of Economics. Nick Clifford is the chairman of the department of History, and Eric

Davis is the chairman of the department of Political Science. Bob Fern is the chairman of the division of Humanities.

There have also been changes in status among continuing faculty. Four faculty members have been promoted to full professor: John Bernighausen of the Department of Chinese, Nancy O'Connor of the French department, David Rosenberg of the Political Science department, and Roberto Veguez of the Spanish department. Three members of the faculty have been granted tenure this year (and therefore are assured of working at the College until they choose to leave): Robert Prigo, associate professor of Physics, Marc Reiss, associate professor of Psychology, and Ugo Skubikowski, associate professor of Italian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would the person or persons responsible for removing the lawn decoration from 16 College Street please return it to Mrs. Fortier. This is the second time decorations have been stolen from my house. If these plastic animals are that admired for dorm decorations, they can be purchased at Ben Franklin's very cheaply.

It is a shame that area residents cannot put anything on their lawns without wondering how long it will stay there.

I hope the student(s) respon-

sible will have the decency to return the decoration and to apologize to my grandmother, Mrs. Fortier. I also hope the rest of the college community will think twice before taking someone else's property, even if it was only a cheap lawn decoration. If you have any information regarding the stolen objects please contact Margaret Sanchez '88, Box 3541.

Course changes may be made through Friday, Sept. 20, 1985 by means of Drop-Add cards obtainable in the Dean of Students' Office.

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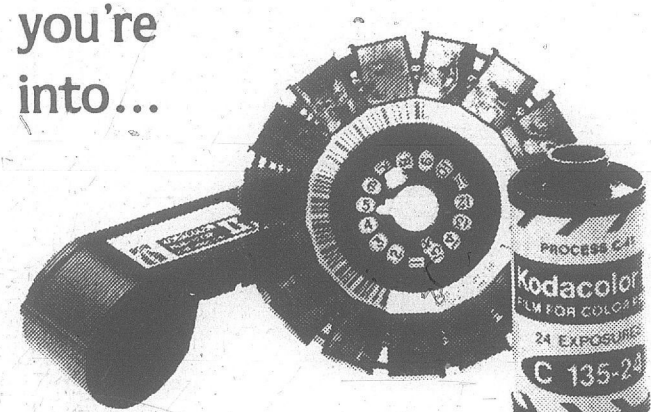
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EDITORIAL

Changes

Changes. When the topic of the first weekly editorial was brought up at the Campus board meeting, only one constant theme was evident in all the diverse topics discussed: that Middlebury is **changing**. A \$80 million fund-raising campaign is under way and many of the physical changes visible on the campus will be financed with this money.

Even more important are the **invisible** changes occurring. Two very different issues, the question of divestment and the possibility of a new curriculum, are shared with colleges all over the U.S. Divestment has become a major national concern and, though it may not make much financial difference whether the College divests or not, we must try to understand this issue and act in a morally acceptable and rational way.

Although most students are probably not aware of it, the American educational system has been undergoing a small revolution over the past few years. Important to undergraduate colleges, especially, is the question of whether to continue to follow the curriculum pattern set by graduate institutions or to strike out on their own or a little of both. Some of the proposals put forth by a special curriculum committee, for Midd's "new look," include a core course for sophomores, weekly convocations to bring the college community together, new definitions of foundation divisions, a senior work requirement, and a tri-mester system, which would effectively eliminate Winter term.

The students, trustees, administrators and faculty of Middlebury face many challenges for the year of 1985-1986, but we also have the capability for meeting them with success.

The **Middlebury Campus** is also undergoing some changes! Two new sections, **Overseas** and **Science** are in the works. The first will mainly involve students studying abroad with some input from past travelers. The second will provide a forum and information section for the science departments at Middlebury. Because of the workload of the science majors, it is difficult to find writers so if you're interested drop us a note.

Besides these obvious changes, we are making a concerted effort to bring you, "our revered reader," the best **NEWS, FEATURES, SPORTS OPINIONS, ARTS**, and soon **OVERSEAS** and **SCIENCES** we can! So, read on! (We also hope you like the crossword puzzle! And for all you Doonesbury fans-don't panic- it'll be back soon!)

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The **Middlebury Campus** (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published in Middlebury, Vermont, by the Student Association of Middlebury College. Publication is every Friday of the academic year except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College, (802) 388-3151.

Address editorial communications to the Editor, and business and subscription communications to the Business Manager at The **Middlebury Campus**, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, 05753. The opinions expressed in To the Editor, Opinions, reviews, and commentaries are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The **Middlebury Campus**.

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Two of Middlebury's local businesses. Next week there will be a story on the town's economy. (Photos by Brad Schildt)



LETTERS

The BSU Favors Divestment

To the Editor:

Last semester the Student Forum with help from the Armadillos and the Black Student Union, voted for total divestment of Middlebury College holdings in South Africa. This vote was an open action on the part of Middlebury students to voice their opinions against apartheid and help bring an end to Middlebury's investment in South Africa. This system, called apartheid, separates people on the basis of color and fails to give any social, economic, and political rights to eighty-five per cent of the black population in South Africa.

Presently, there is, increasingly, a major revolution taking shape in South Africa. This negative development came about due to the South African government's unwillingness and failure to compromise with the black majority in order to bring about justice and peace to all people living in South Africa. Furthermore, the revolution that is going on at this present moment, has become an international problem due to financial and humanitarian concerns. For example, the United States government

just recently, due to pressure from the Senate and the House of Representatives, voted on placing sanctions against the South African minority government as a means to end apartheid and bring about positive reform.

Therefore, due to Middlebury's investment and the failure of justice to surface in South Africa, it is pertinent that both students and faculty voice their opinions together against the college's investment policy. It is this coming together of faculty and students that will enable a strong foundation to exist in order to seriously confront the Board of Trustees who make the final decision of the College's investment policy towards South Africa. In this way we can pursue Middlebury's total divestment and establish Middlebury College as an institution of higher education which respects its creed and maintains a strong moral belief in justice for all. A decision to divest the college's holdings will serve as a great reward to the college in the future when history allows us and others to look back at Middlebury's direct decision to divest from apartheid.

With this goal in mind, we reach out to all students and faculty to voice their opinions in unity against the present college investment policy to help bring about Middlebury's total divestment from South Africa. Please stay in touch with the Campus and other student organizations for additional information in our effort for Middlebury's total divestment from the oppressive system in South Africa known as "Apartheid". We look forward to working with you all this year towards this end.

The Black Student Union

The **Middlebury Campus** welcomes reader's comments. Letters must be limited to 250 words and submitted by Monday at 5 P.M. to appear in Friday's issue. Letters must be signed by the author and include a return address and telephone number. Pseudonyms will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Address letters: To the Editor, The **Middlebury Campus**, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, 05753.

OPINIONS

Hurley Exposes Second Face of George Kennan

By Ed Hurley

"What is troubling is Mr. Kennan's apparent difficulty to deem illegitimate any manifestation of the Soviet determination to cling to or project power."

Thus argues Paul Hollander in his summer "Policy Review" article "The Two Faces of George Kennan: From Containment to 'Understanding'." Hollander, professor of sociology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a fellow at the Russian Research Center at Harvard, is author of "Political Pilgrims, Soviet and American Society: A Comparison" and "The Many Faces of Socialism."

By examining the writings of one of America's leading liberal intellectuals, Hollander documents that the former ambassador has sided against the U.S. in several superpower conflicts. Kennan has gone from explicitly supporting containment to implicitly advocating appeasement.

Modern Soviet leaders, Kennan writes, are "men whose motivation is essentially defensive and whose attention is riveted primarily to the unsolved problems of economic development within their own country..." Kennan finds numerous ex-

cuses for Soviet expansionism abroad and human rights abuses internally, but he loudly condemns the U.S. for its "decadence" and other faults: "I can see very little merit in organizing ourselves to defend from the Russians the porno shops in central Washington. In fact, the Russians are much better at holding pornography at bay than we are."

In his "Memoirs" Kennan admits to preferring "hierarchy and authority over compromise and manipulation," and has a "distaste amounting almost to horror for the chaotic disorder of the American political process."

It is not surprising, then, that Kennan believes the U.S. "ought to follow a policy of minding its own business... we have nothing to teach the world."

Like the national leaders of the Democratic Party, Kennan has abandoned the realistic foreign policy approaches of Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman and John Kennedy.

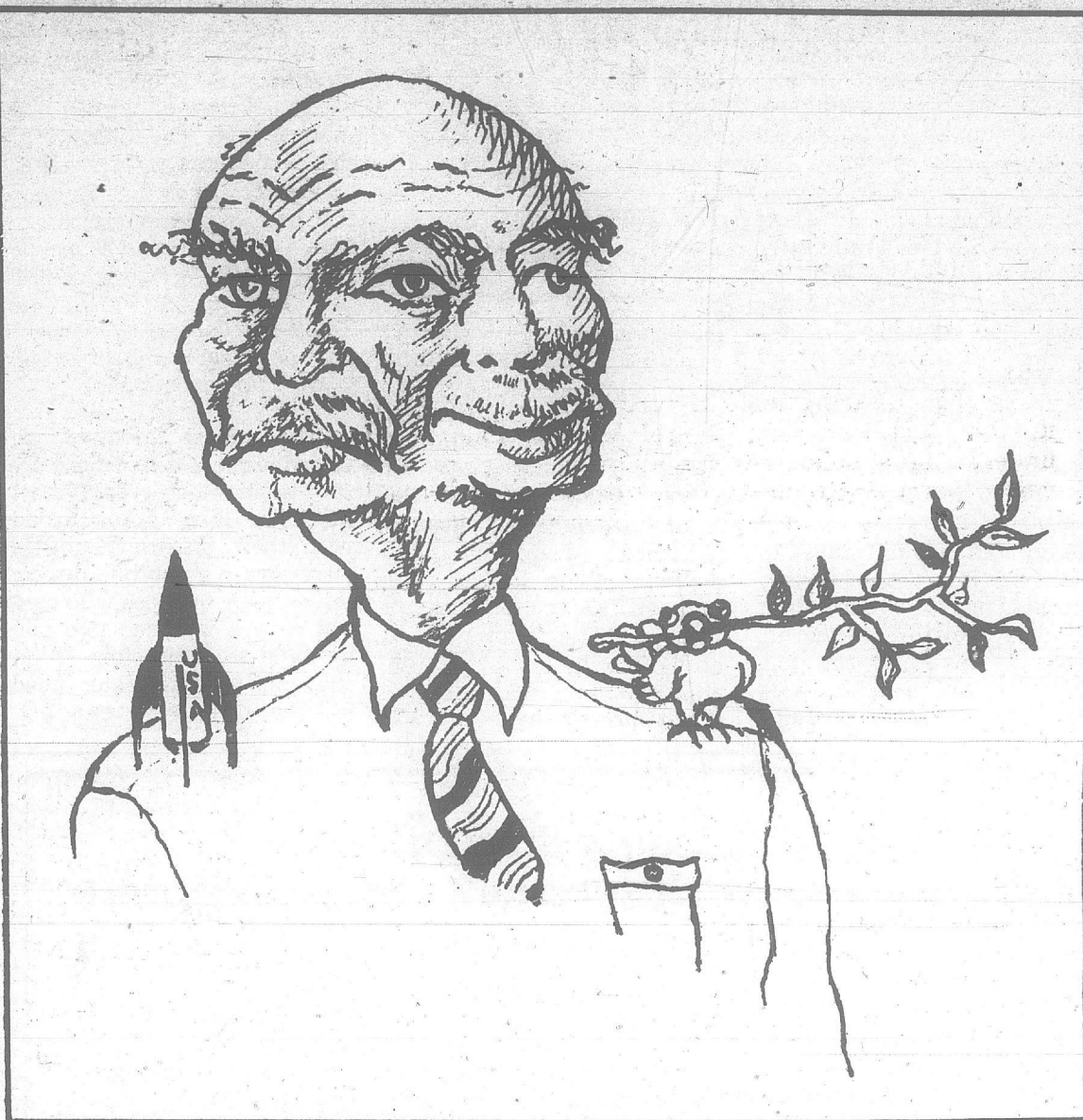
Arnold Beichman, a visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution and a frequent writer on Soviet affairs, notes that Kennan's "fulminations against American culture, the system of government, his dislike of his fellow Americans would

make one think he was readying himself to depart the land of his birth."

Hollander rejects the notion

that Kennan views the superpowers as morally equivalent. Instead, Hollander concludes that Kennan's views of U.S. and

Soviet society are "like a seesaw: as Mr. Kennan's appreciation for American society goes down, his esteem for its adversaries rises."



Curriculum Committee Proposals Debated

By Tracy Edwards

I first heard of the Special Committee on the Curriculum's report up at Bread Loaf during the first day of this year's House Director orientation. It was mentioned that this year's Winter Term could very well be the last. Frank Kelly elaborated, saying that, among others, a recommendation had just been made to the faculty that Winter Term be abolished.

Having been a member of last spring's Educational Council, where we had discussed at length the proposal to drop Winter Term, and thinking that the proposal had been laid to rest, I was furious to hear that something had been acted upon behind all our backs this summer. To this day, I am upset that student opinion was not consulted, even though the committee's formation was announced March 4, 1985, well before the end of school.

I understand that summer was the optimum time for the committee to carry out its research. However, I do not think that it would have been terribly difficult to consult the opinion of student leaders, who could have stayed on

campus through the week after graduation, when the initial confrontations took place. I'm sure that, having been asked, any student would have been flattered and extremely interested in helping to formulate a proposal that has more potential to alter radically the course of education at Middlebury than any proposal since that concerning the reinstitution of graduation requirements, back in 1975.

We students now have the opportunity to voice our reactions to what has been presented, and to make suggestions for change.

Yet there is no point screamin' and hollerin', for now that the report is out, the committee's work is virtually over. That is not to say that student voice should go unheeded. At the faculty meeting on Sept. 11, President Robison announced that the proposal will be formally placed on the floor at the Nov. 4 meeting of the faculty, at which time amendments will be heard. A vote will not be

taken until all groups concerned (trustees, administrators, faculty, and students, channeling their concerns through Student Forum or through the committees on which individual students sit) are heard, and the impact on all aspects of the college is examined.

Although we were not given the chance to participate in formulating the proposal as it first appeared, we students now have the opportunity to

voice our reactions to what has been presented, and to make suggestions for change. Let the comments that follow be the impetus for initiating rational student discussion and for presenting additional, thoughtful suggestions.

I realize that a trimester system is the only system that would allow room for the proposed curriculum changes, which I agree would be necessary improvements.

Furthermore, they accommodate the faculty's desire to have adequate time to prepare between periods of instruction. I find it admirable, too, that in the proposed system allowances could be made for guest professors who could not come for an entire trimester, but for just the first or second half of the winter trimester. The system would also accommodate courses of an experimental nature, such as plays directed by guest professors. Moreover, the proposed Tuesday convocations and Freshman seminars would allow students to be taught by guest professors, and/or learn unique or interdisciplinary subjects.

I object, however, to the fact that in the new calendar there would be no opportunity for alternative types of study, such as internships or research on or off campus. This is possible under the present system and provides invaluable job experiences that are often not available during the summer, especially in the field of education.

I see at least three logistical problems with the calendar, and I'm sure that as the study continues, more will be discovered, since every

aspect of college life as we know it will be affected by the reforms.

— The proposed calendar is not feasible in terms of energy consumption. In the new calendar there would be a sixteen-day interterm recess at the end of November, followed by three weeks of school, followed by another sixteen-day recess for Christmas. Due to the nature and timing of these breaks, many students would desire to remain on campus, forcing dorms and dining rooms to remain open and therefore excess energy to be used.

In the new calendar there would be no opportunity for alternative types of study...

— The calendar discriminates against students who wish to go abroad for only part of the year. Under the current

continued on page 8

continued from page 7

system students are able to study abroad, to take four or even five courses at a foreign school which operates under a semester system, and to return for the beginning of the next semester, having to account for only five Middlebury credits. If they have five courses abroad, there is no loss. If they have to make up a credit, they can usually substitute a summer language school or an A.P. credit. If Middlebury switches to a trimester system, even students who have taken five courses will have to make up one credit, and most students will have to make up two credits, as they will have missed two three-credit trimesters.

This proposal, then, discriminates against the student who does not have credits to spare, or who is not willing to take a larger course load while abroad.

— There is no provision for the review of comprehensive exams. Students who currently take "comps" during Winter Term would no longer be able to devote their entire winter to the review of their major, but would have to share this time with two other courses, one of which might be the senior seminar, presently given in the fall. Unless, again, he is fortunate enough to have extra credits,

the student would be forced to take a third course during this term, to which he would very likely devote little attention.

I agree with and am actually excited about most of the proposed curriculum changes, though I question whether it is possible, even with the help of a computer,

This proposal, then, discriminates against the student who does not have credits to spare, or who is not willing to take a larger course load while abroad.

to house all seminar registrants together. I stand firmly opposed, however, to the proposed 'Sophomore Core Course' for the following reasons:

— The sheer size of the course would spell disaster for both teachers and students. Even though it is planned as a team-taught course, the number of students in each section, should the course be broken down into sections, would still

present a massive challenge to the instructor, who must grade all homework, papers, projects, exams, etc.

The large size of the course would also make it very difficult for a student to learn: students learn the most from small classes in which they receive personal attention and may participate actively in class discussion. Both of these situations would be impossible in a class of the intended size.

Isn't it somewhat contradictory to claim that such a course would be beneficial, after having extolled the virtues of the small, personal Freshman Seminars?

— The course would be superfluous. The subject of the course, entitled, "Tradition and the Human Prospect," is redundant. It would be covered in Tuesday convocations and might also be covered in Freshman Seminars. This possibility will be discussed under alternative considerations.

— The course involves an uneconomical use of time. By the sophomore year most students are preoccupied with their majors. Students who wish to go abroad during junior year, or those who cannot choose between two majors and who therefore sit on the fence for a semester, need all the time they can get.

The sheer size of the course would spell disaster for both teachers and students.

There are other, less time-consuming ways of instilling the "great ideas" that would be taught in the Sophomore Core Course. *This is the first of a two-part series.*

STUDENT FORUM

presents

"The Special Curriculum Committee's" report to the president on 22 September, 1985 at 6:50 pm in Warner Hemicycle. Please be on time for Professor Davis and his committee plan to begin promptly at 7:00 and will conclude at 9:00 pm.

All students are encouraged to come and learn about the proposed changes in your curriculum.

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FEATURES

Obel-Omia brings new enthusiasm to student forum

By Antoinette van Zelm

Sophomore Michael Obel-Omia sat dumbfounded as he listened to the results of last spring's election for chairman of the student forum. His ascent from freshman representative to head of Middlebury's student government left him "extremely surprised and elated." Says Obel-Omia now, "I couldn't believe it was happening, but it was great."

As a brisk fall descends on Middlebury and students get back into the routine of academic life, Obel-Omia speaks with energy and enthusiasm about his role as chairman of the forum.

'Student input is necessary to insure that student needs are met.'

Both Obel-Omia and the student forum will be involved with the proposed curriculum changes, which include a recommendation for a trimester calendar. "First and foremost, I'm hoping to keep winter term. The Educational Council has already begun working on that," says Obel-Omia. "My argument for keeping winter term is that it

gives students an opportunity to take courses they may not be able to take with their usual course load. It also allows people to take internships which may lead to careers." Obel-Omia mentions intensive beginning languages as an example of some courses that may suffer.

'I feel good because I'm doing something not only for myself but for my college.'

With regard to the proposed curriculum changes, Obel-Omia feels that the students' ideas and opinions have to be considered before any final decisions are made. "The faculty and president are making good recommendations for positive change, but student input is still needed," says Obel-Omia. He feels that the necessity of student opinion applies to other changes on campus as well, such as the new dorm and the possible construction of a student union building. "Student input is necessary to insure that student needs are met."

Obel-Omia hopes that whenever the opportunity to become involved in school



Student Forum chairman Michael Obel — Omia relaxes in the sun. (Photo by Michelle Marie Millin)

issues exists, students will be active. He notices "a lot of school apathy," and he would like to "try to get more people involved on more committees so that they're involved in making decisions." To illustrate his feeling that students should act if they want to see change, Obel-Omia mentions the food at Middlebury. "There are a lot of changes that can be made," he says. "The food service has to be told if students don't enjoy the food." Obel-Omia enjoys working with other students: "I want people to get involved!"

Another goal of Obel-

Omia's is to learn more about Middlebury's interests in South Africa. He says, "On most campuses, South Africa has become a key issue. I want to find out the school's position and if divestment is wise for Middlebury." He is forming a committee to investigate the matter.

'I must be in a position to act, to get things done.'

Obel-Omia comments on the few minorities in high of-

fices at Middlebury. "If the College can get more minorities in positions of authority, that's good. But doing that just to fill quotas is wrong." Regarding himself as the first black chairman of the forum he says, "I look at myself first as a student at Middlebury."

Leadership is nothing new for Obel-Omia. He came to Middlebury from Albany Academy, a military preparatory school, where he was one of seven captains. He thrives on activity: "I don't necessarily have to be the head honcho, but I must be in

continued on page 10

Midd college life meets freshmen expectations

By T.R. Lazo

The members of the Class of '89 have now been part of the Middlebury College community for three weeks. They are thus able to assess whether college life has lived up to their expectations.

The academic workload has been heavy, but as one freshman noted, it is hard to compare college demands to high school homework because the schools' schedules are so different. There is more work in college, but there is also more free time in which to complete it.

involved in, with so much to choose from."

The new social environment looks good; opportunities to meet new people, frequent parties and the accessible downtown provide excellent social activity.

All in all, adjusting to the college atmosphere takes some getting used to. One freshman said that he didn't think that he would miss home, but that after a couple of weeks he realized that college isn't a summer camp which lasts a few weeks.

One freshman said that he didn't think that he would miss home, but that after a couple of weeks he realized that college isn't a summer camp which lasts a few weeks.

Many freshmen have discovered that there are numerous extra-curricular opportunities at Middlebury. It's hard for freshmen to decide which activities to pursue. Freshman Mark Dimond said that because everything takes up a lot of time, "it's hard to decide what to get in-

ment to be difficult, which it has been, but that with each day he feels more comfortable.

In general, the ideas they came with have proven true for the Class of '89. But more unexpected experiences are expected.



The Ds gave a warm welcome to the Class of '89 during Orientation activities at Breadloaf. (Photo by Michelle Marie Millin)

Obel-Omia

continued from page 9

a position to act, to get things done." His action often includes inspiring others to take action: "I'm not a dictator or anything, but I believe in doing what you think is right." About five years ago, Obel-Omia wrote a letter to President Carter, calling him "a wimp" and urging him to stand up for what he believes in.

"I'm not really a workaholic, but I like to be active, which I've been all week," says Obel-Omia as he gestures to his abundant mail and long list of appointments and meetings. Is he worried about having time for his academics? Not at all: "I enjoy the pressure. It just adds to the fun of the job. It's great. My days are scheduled."

Obel-Omia sums up, "I feel good because I'm doing something not only for myself but for my college." He adds jokingly, "Ask not what your school can do for you but what you can do for your school."

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OVERSEAS

To all Overseas students:

Hello from Middlebury! This year **The Campus** will be sent to as many of you as possible free of charge. This is the first time this has been done, mostly because of the prohibitive cost of sending mail overseas. We hope you enjoy receiving **The Campus** each week and hearing about what's going on here. Some of you may not want to hear from us; if so, please drop us a note and we'll stop sending the newspaper to you.

But if you want to hear about the **NEWS, SPORTS, OPINIONS, ARTS, SCIENCES, OVERSEAS NEWS** and **FEATURES**, of Middlebury College, just sit back and relax. (But wait...that's not all!) And, by the way, if we don't have your correct address, please tell us as soon as possible.

You may have noticed two new sections of **The Campus** in the list above: **SCIENCES** and **OVERSEAS**. The first article for the new **SCIENCES** section is already in this issue. However, we need your help for the new **OVERSEAS** section. **The Campus** board decided to try it because of the large number of students who go abroad each year.

This important aspect of Middlebury College has never been fully covered, which seems strange for a school that is known internationally for its excellent language program and also has many students from foreign countries all over the world.

But before we can do anything, we need stories, pictures, sketches, letters, in short, anything you think will help make **OVERSEAS** a success. Some of the material will also come from students returned from their experiences abroad, but we hope to have copy mostly from people studying abroad. We can't promise we'll print everything, but we'll try.

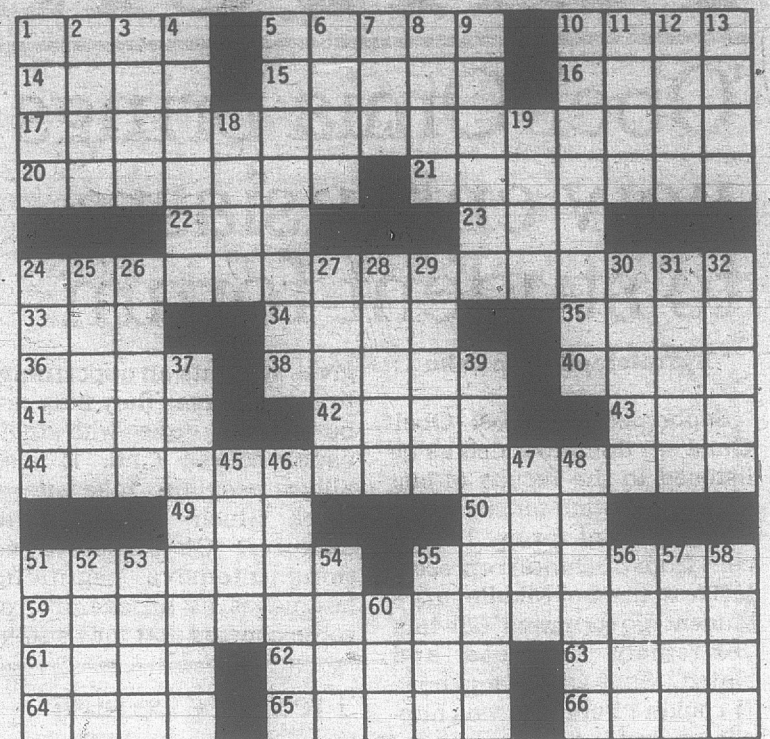
Our first section should appear sometime in mid-October. We'll be sending **The Campus** via airmail so that you should see **OVERSEAS** soon after.

Some of you have already expressed interest in this idea and I hope to hear from you soon.

Our address is **The Campus**, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT. 05753. Please write!

Heather McConnell
Editor-in-Chief

collegiate crossword



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ACROSS

- 1 Paleozoic, Mesozoic, etc.
- 5 Car accessory
- 10 Soviet news agency
- 14 Function
- 15 Parenthetical comment
- 16 Jai
- 17 Principle of economics (3 wds.)
- 20 Provide evidence
- 21 With 60-Down, house pet
- 22 — volta (once, in music)
- 23 Suffix for diction or honor
- 24 Promissory note, e.g. (2 wds.)
- 33 Ms. Gardner
- 34 Sea eagles
- 35 French resort
- 36 Poet Teasdale
- 38 Novelist Philip and actress Lillian
- 40 Type of restaurant, for short
- 41 Seed covering
- 42 — school
- 43 Was a candidate
- 44 EDP personnel (2 wds.)

- 49 Map abbreviation
- 50 Company bigwig (abbr.)
- 51 Alleviate
- 55 Chemical catalyst
- 59 EDP equipment (2 wds.)
- 61 Subject of the movie, "Them"
- 62 South American animal
- 63 Home
- 64 Nearly all
- 65 Like some breakfast foods
- 66 Mah-jongg piece

- 18 The bottom —
- 19 O.K. Corral participant
- 24 Houses, in Hermosillo
- 25 Reproductive organ
- 26 1961 baseball MVP
- 27 Farmer's concern
- 28 Prefix for mural
- 29 Extremely pale
- 30 Seashore structures
- 31 Brilliance of success
- 32 Bride attachment
- 37 Unselfish person
- 39 Astronaut
- 45 "L' —, c'est moi"
- 46 Prefix for maniac
- 47 China's "Great — forward"
- 48 Cultured milk
- 51 Economist Smith
- 52 — Japanese War
- 53 Bilko and York (abbr.)
- 54 First name in jazz
- 55 Site of 1960 Olympics
- 56 Toilet case
- 57 Ms. Carter
- 58 Subject of Kilmer poem
- 60 See 21-Across

DOWN

- 1 Formerly, formerly
- 2 Debauchee
- 3 European range
- 4 Deviated —
- 5 Traveler on foot
- 6 British phrase
- 7 Wrestling maneuver
- 8 Actor Byrnes, et al.
- 9 Phone again
- 10 1957 movie, " — the Bachelor"
- 11 Winglike parts
- 12 — souci
- 13 Beef quantity

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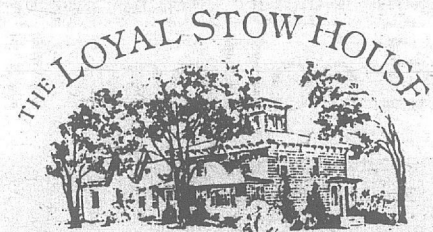
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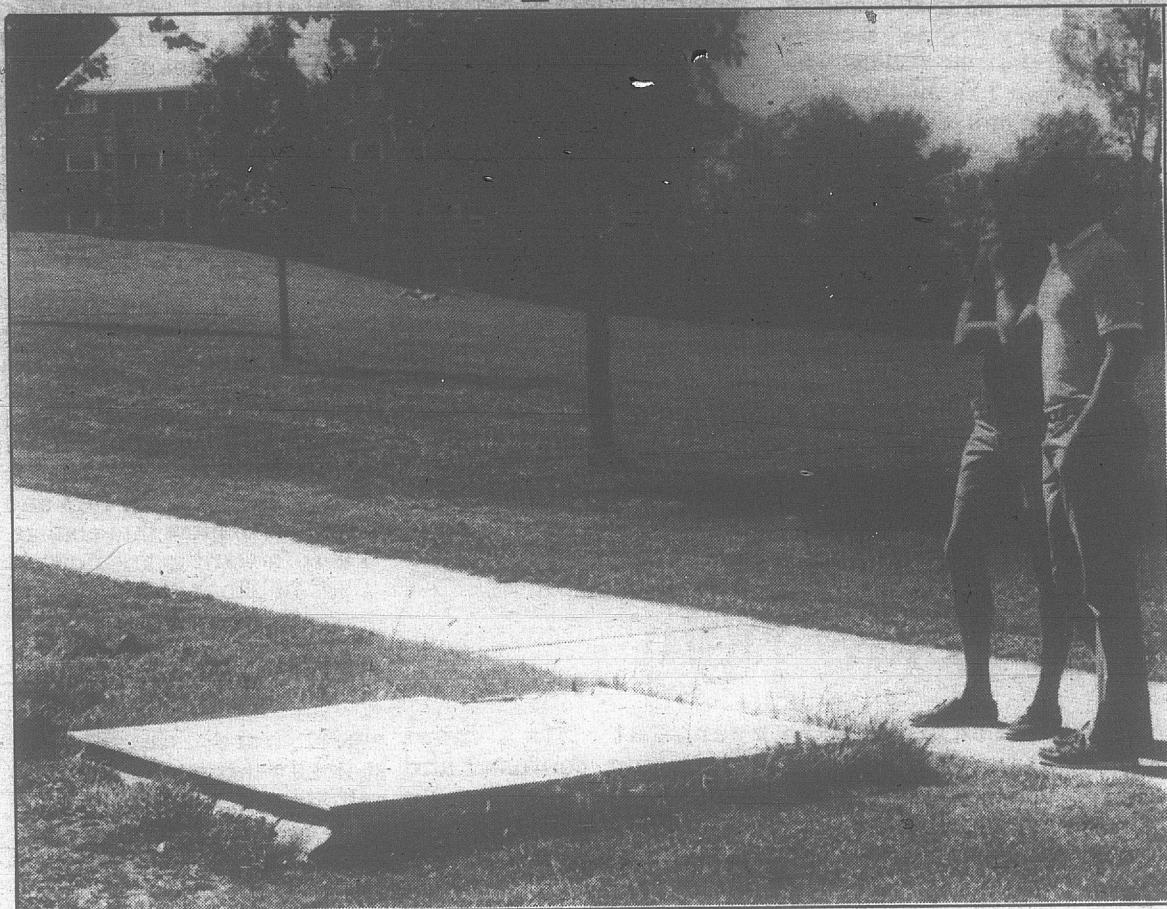


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ARTS

Acconci Sculpture Burned Graduation Night



Students ponder the space that had been filled by the Acconci sculpture. (Photo by Julie Soper)

By Jack Otter

It did provoke a reaction. Everybody agrees on that point. A student led petition was circulated asking for its removal; it was covered with graffiti (the sculpture had to be repainted four times); it was pelted with oranges, apples and whatever other food that would be Dwight Goodens hurled on the way out of the SDU's. And then the Vito Acconci sculpture was burned last spring.

The night after the graduation ceremonies, June 26, a blow torch was used on the sculpture and the plexiglass covering on its slanted side was ignited. Approximately 75 percent of the gray rustoleum covering the other three sides also caught on fire. With the protective paint gone from the sculpture (which was known affectionately, or sarcastically or bitterly as the "Venus d' Acconci"), it began to rust and was taken to the service building for protective storage. The sculpture stood for three years next to the path leading from the New Dorms to the SDU's.

The question now is whether Acconci will come to Middlebury to repair his sculpture, or if it will be shipped to Brooklyn, where the artist is now teaching, to be repaired there. Eric Nelson, assistant professor of art, told *The Campus* that the art department is "committed to seeing the piece restored." Richard Saunders, College curator and director of the

gallery, said that once restored, the sculpture "should go right back to the original site." But he added that "maybe the artist will be agreeable to re-siting it somewhere else."

The art department has not yet informed Acconci of the state of his work because, according to Nelson, the "department was not able to meet as a whole" over the summer. Saunders said that Acconci should be informed "soon."

Acconci has not returned phone calls from *The Campus* so no interview has been arranged as of yet.

The reaction on campus to the incident has been mixed. Some students, primarily those involved in the arts who had some understanding of the piece, were disgusted with the destruction of the sculpture. Many students cheered its removal, regardless of the reason, others had not even noticed that it was gone.

Erica Wonnacott, dean of students, told *The Campus* that "the administration has suggested that the placement of the statue is problematic." Wonnacott explained that it is difficult to guard the sculpture 24 hours a day at its site in the northwest corner of the campus.

Nelson equated the action with "bookburning" and said that it contradicted "the idea of a liberal arts education" which requires openness and toleration. He noted that people are more offended or threatened by sculpture than many other forms of art because "it occupies our space."

He said that the one mistake the Art Department may have made was not "educating the community

continued on page 13

National Endowment For the Arts enters its 20th year, Midd celebrates

By Jack Otter

National Arts Week at Middlebury College will be celebrated with tai chi dancing, musical performances by artists from inside and outside the college, and many excellent films. This week marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the National Endowments for the Arts by the Johnson administration.

Jim Butler and Eric Nelson, assistant professors of art, will go to the Fleming Museum at the University of Vermont to attend a luncheon with Governor Madeleine Kunin as part of the week-long celebration.

The department of Theatre, Dance and Film is hosting Al Huang, tai chi master dancer and accompanying cellist David Darling, at Middlebury. Huang will perform at Wright Theatre at 4:15 this afternoon in a performance-lecture open to the college. Saturday night Huang's performance will be part of the Concert series; admittance by ticket only. On Saturday morning at ten o'clock Darling will conduct a workshop on improvisational dancing.

Ralph Helmick, visiting professor from Boston, will lecture and show slides on his work in Johnson 207 at 4:15, Wednesday. Helmick designed the monumental aluminium head of Arthur Friedler which stands at the esplanade adjacent to the Charles River where the Boston Pops performs.

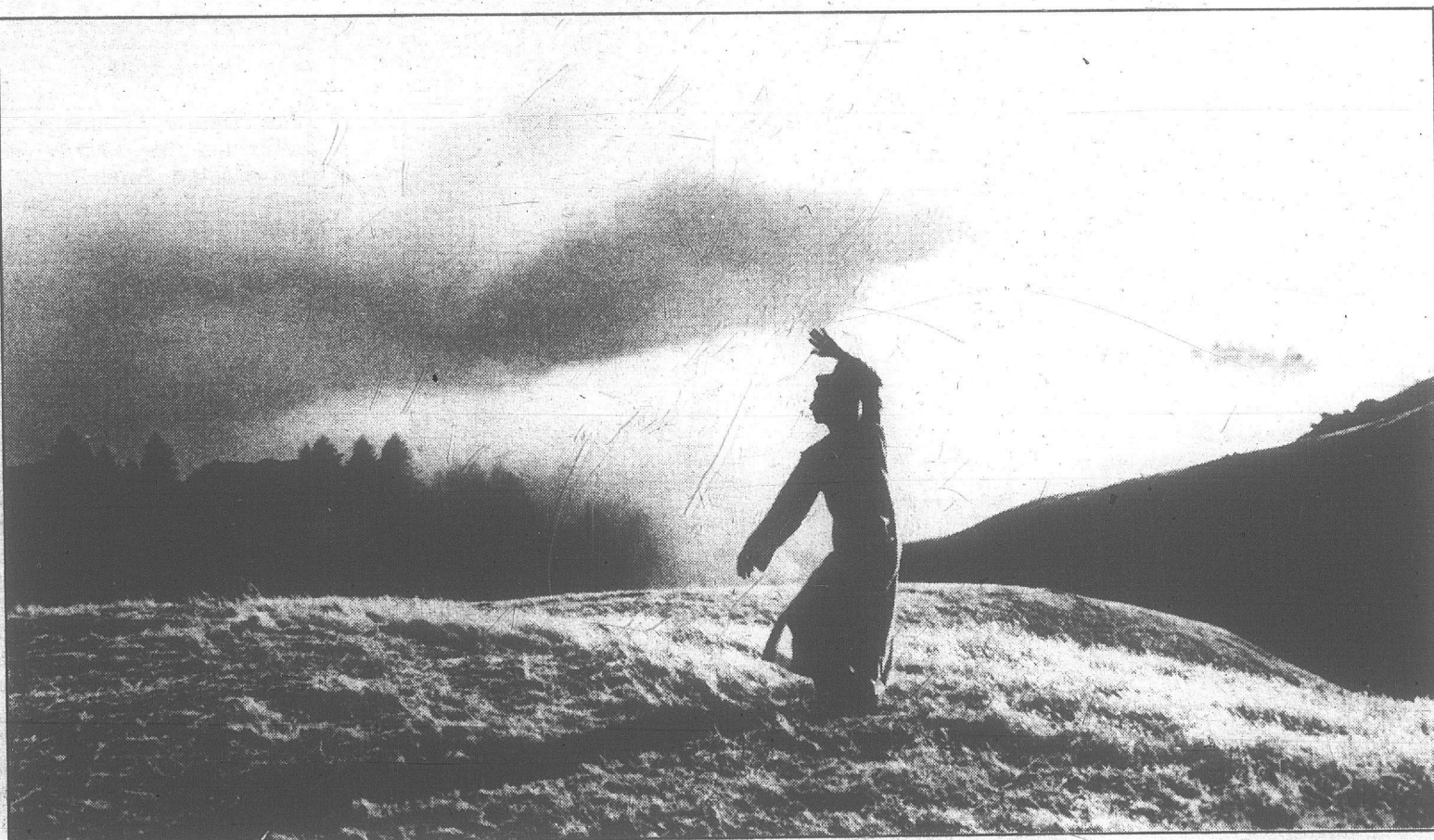
On Thursday evening George Todd, professor of music, Andrea Olsen, assistant professor of dance, and Penny Campbell, visiting lecturer on dance will perform "An evening of recent works."

Tonight at 7:00 and 9:30 Katherine Hepburn, Sidney Poitier and Spencer Tracy can be seen on the silver screen at Dana in "Guess who's coming to diner?" Other films include Fellini's

"8 and a half" and James Cagney in "White Heat."

The Johnson Memorial Gallery is holding a showing of works from the Middlebury College Permanent Collection.

In addition to the many showings and performances, the status of art in this country will be addressed by Robert Freeman, director of the Eastman School of Music and a member of the Mid-



Al Huang, tai chi master dancer.

Ex-Professor writes a history of Middlebury's first century

By Michele McHugh

Until Storrs W. Lee published "Father Went to College: the Story of Middlebury," a history of our school had not been written. "The Town's College: Middlebury College, 1800-1915" began as a doctoral dissertation for David M. Stameshkin, then studying at the University of Michigan. Dr. Stameshkin is a midwesterner who was captured by the charm of Vermont when he came to teach for a year with the Middlebury College History Department. The course, entitled, "A History of American Education" prompted him to begin studying Middlebury. His fidelity to the locale and attention to detail make this

book quite enjoyable.

The work is a comprehensive history of the characters and events that have shaped Middlebury College. Everyone associated with Middlebury will enjoy the book, if only to identify each building and area landmark with a real person. Dr. Stameshkin paints very amusing and informative portraits of such great men as Gamaliel Painter, Jeremiah Atwater, D.K. Pearsons and Joseph Battell. Many less familiar but equally important people are discussed, like Eleanor Ross '95 who served as Dean of Women at Middlebury for thirty years and John Martin Thomas '90, whose vision and dedication as President improved the

college between 1908 and 1915.

The main character of this book is the college itself and its relationship to the town of Middlebury. "One student recalled that the college was to the town 'like their own offspring. A new class seemed like a new born child.'" (p. 86) During its 185 years of existence, Middlebury College has experienced many nearly fatal crises and during the 19th century, the Middlebury town community came to the rescue.

Dr. Stameshkin also makes many comparisons to other early New England institutions of higher education. Numerous charts and graphs display the economic and academic similarities and dif-

ferences between Middlebury and its rivals; and the extensive opening section, that deals with UVM and Middlebury College, is particularly interesting.

Many aspects of life at Middlebury College have remained the same, even after 185 years. Of the weather, one senior wrote to his friend in 1816, "Without joking about the weather, sir, it is remarkably cold here," (p. 50) to a dining unit which, in 1882, was named "Hamlin's Hash House" (p. 201). On the seamier side, "The most common breach of discipline was drunkenness, and a night of insobriety often led to other offenses." (p. 106)

"The Town's College" has something to offer, everyone

involved in the Middlebury community. Campus organizations, some now lost, some still thriving; college athletics, fraternities, sororities, colorful faculty and trustee board members, outstanding students and the early religious tone of both the college and town are all covered with objectivity and honesty. The twenty-one pages of the bibliography attest to the fact that Dr. Stameshkin has completed an exhaustive study of the town and college. The college's dependence of the town has changed over the years and Dr. Stameshkin's second volume, which will focus on the college between 1915 and 1985, will explore that change. I look forward to this finished portrait of our college.

Year of the Dragon: Old stuff / New right

By Scott Ross

In his bestseller *Final Cut*, Steven Bach, formerly a production executive at United Artists, chronicles a disastrous series of events involved in the making of director Michael Cimino's resounding flop, "Heaven's Gate", which mushroomed from a modest — by today's inflated standards — \$7.5 million budget to a final cost of some \$44 million. The film was unanimously panned, and its repercussions included the selling of United Artists to MGM (which ironically had initially been purchased

some years before by UA's parent company, TransAmerica.)

After the "Heaven's Gate" debacle, many of us half-expected we'd heard the last of Mr. Cimino. But, as we ought to understand by this time, second-guessing Hollywood is never a safe bet. Amazingly, Cimino's latest effort, "The Year of the Dragon," was bank-rolled by none other than MGM-UA. Still, from all reports, Cimino managed to finish the picture on time and on budget, and last week's box office gross lists place the film at number 7, so I suppose there is some

small triumph in all this for a man who, in any other business, would already have been washed up. Alas, the triumph is one of bookkeeping, not of art.

I must confess at the outset to being no fan of Mr. Cimino after seeing his Academy Award-winning film, "The Deer Hunter." Despite several extraordinary images and a fair number of effective, even suspenseful set-pieces (recall, for example, the sociologically absurd but undeniably powerful "Russian Roulette" sequence), the film was weak in its narrative lines and,

even at its most astonishing, confused and unfocused, occasionally even racist in its nationalistic simple-mindedness.

Unfortunately, Mr. Cimino is back in his element with "The Year of the Dragon." I won't deny that the film has its moments; it's suspenseful and often beautiful, even as it's leaving you cold.

"The Year of the Dragon" deals, primarily, with a classic American situation: one man's crusade against The System. It's New York cop Stanley White (Mickey Rourke) out to clean up Chinatown. A daunting prospect for one lone man, but never fear: for White is Rambo and Dirty Harry in one, and one is more than enough, thank you. Actually, something I call the Rambo Factor is hard at

work here, as White stoically dares to accept a self-appointed mission to stop bribery and corruption where the enterprity of New York's finest has failed. Never mind that he straight-facedly demands of a group of Chinese businessmen whether they think "gambling, corruption and murder are kosher"; White is no dummy. We hear, ad nauseum, that he is "the most decorated cop in the city." A Viet Nam veteran, White complains, in true Ramboesque style, that "nobody wants to win. It's just like Viet Nam all over again." Meanwhile, his boss tells him, "You're letting your imagination run away with you." Clearly, the scriptwriters never had that problem.

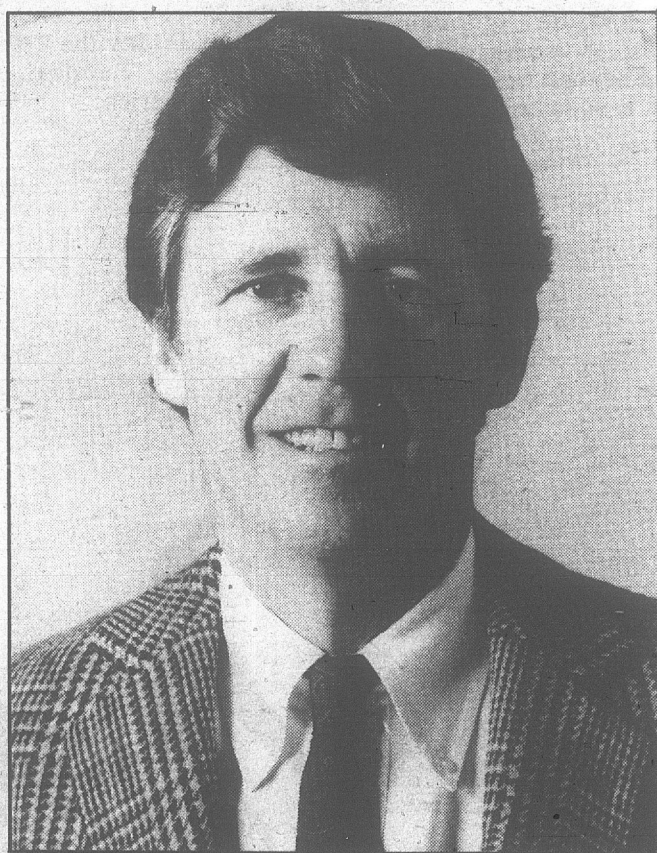
That's the trouble with "The Year of the Dragon" continued on page 13

After 400 interviews and four years Spencer publishes book

By Margaret Sanchez

After spending four years in Kenya and Tanzania, John Spencer, professor of history, compiled the information from his numerous interviews of those involved in the formation of the Kenyan African Union (KAU) with research to create the history of Kenya's political organizations. The theme as stated in the introduction is "the attempt of Africans to find an effective political voice."

The Kenya African Union includes two sections of background material on the KAU. One chapter focuses on the formation of the Kikuyu Association and the Eastern African Association under the leadership of Harry Thula. The Kikuyu Central Association is then introduced with its history. This organization was one of the most important groups preceeding the KAU. Spencer explains how the KAU arose and some of the major issues and problems that faced the organization until the early 1950's, when, after the "Mau Mau" emergency, it stopped functioning.



John Spencer, professor of History, has written a book on Africa. (file photo)

Spencer has combined a large number of resources into a work that covers all aspects of the KAU. Although many students may not find this to be appropriate bed-

time reading, The Kenya African Union would provide a valuable resource for one looking for a history of Kenyan politics.

OF INTEREST

By Jack Otter

The Dance Company of Middlebury for 1985-86 has been selected: Peter Downey, Stephanie Leighton, Sharon Lessa, Sue Prins, Tyrone Williams, Mary Venable and Musical Director Greg Hiner will tour the Washington DC area from January 30th to February 7th.

Chekov's *Uncle Vanya*, the departmental production for this fall has been cast after three nights of auditions. The show is scheduled to run the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of November. The leading men are sophomore Jonathan Higgins, and seniors Tim Saunders and Jake Weber. The leading women will be played by senior Elaine Cissi and sophomore Melissa Perry.

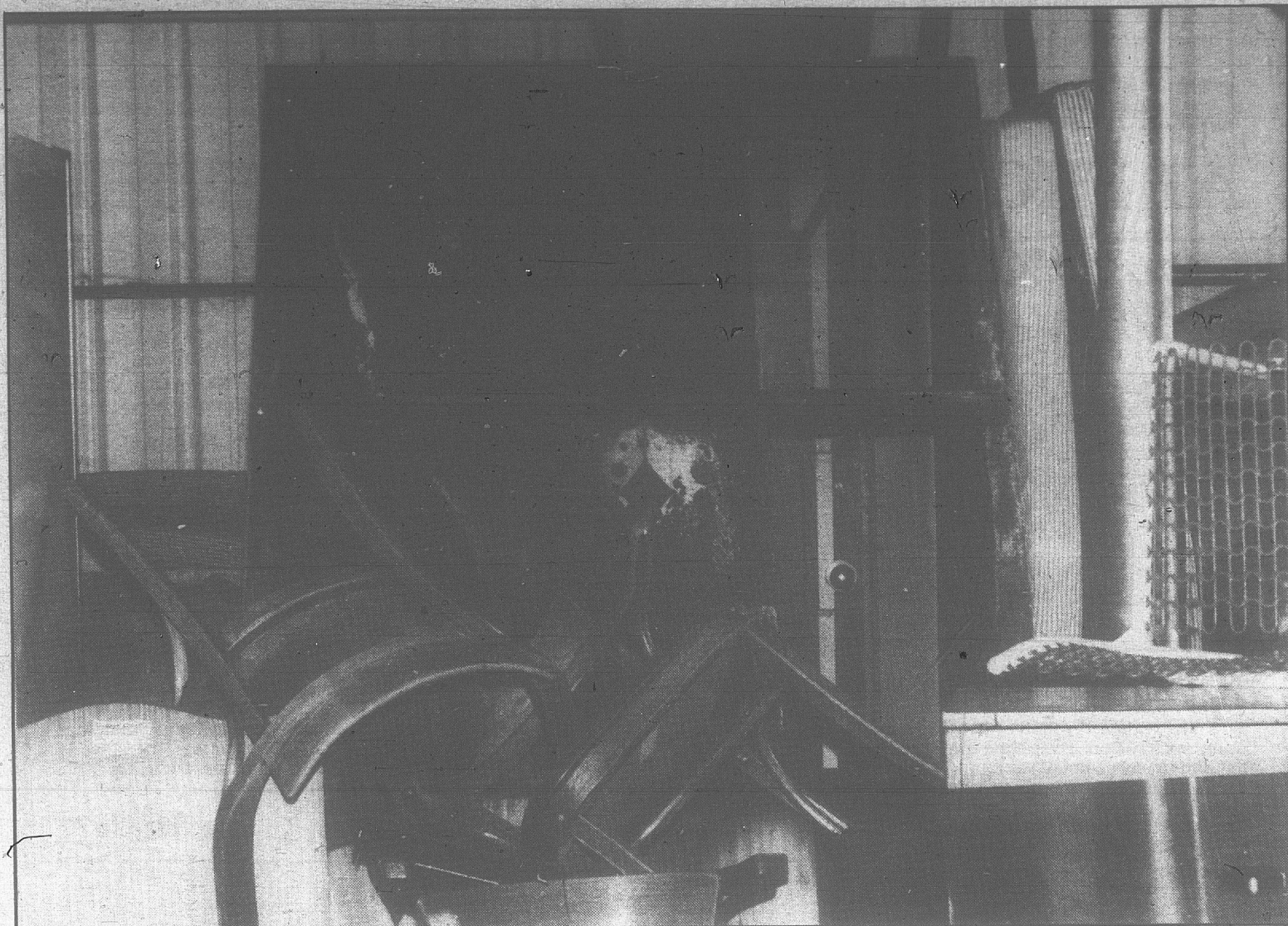
The annual "Help-under-tent-in-case-of-rain" party at Wright Theatre was highlighted this year by a musical review arranged by Doug Anderson, assistant professor of theatre. Anderson tinkled the ivories while seniors Bill Burden, Laurence Ewing and Heather Frazier treated the group of students and faculty to four songs, from Frazier's throaty rendition of "You made me love you" (directed straight to Ted Perry, professor of Theatre and Art) to Burden's "Our Time," from Sondheim's *Merrily We Role Along*, which Anderson will direct in the spring.

Two shows are lined up for the Hepburn Zoo this fall: senior Robert Gladding's and sophomore Sybil McCarthy's adaptation of JD Salinger's *Franny and Zooey* and senior Daphne Gil's production of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*.

Venus d'Acconci is in protective custody

continued from page 11
thoroughly enough" about the sculpture and the artist. Acconci was a Christian A. Johnson visiting professor of the Arts for winter term, 1983 and his two lectures in Dana were standing room only, but nonetheless the sculpture is not widely understood.

Saunders fears that the incident could "taint visiting artist's program," especially if the sculpture is not relocated on the original site. "What does it say to others," Saunders asked, "who may have equally provocative ideas of one kind or another?"



The charred remains of the Acconci in the service building. (Photo by Julie Soper)

Year of the Dragon: gore and bore

continued from page 12
in a nutshell. Cimino is convinced that he is an artist; that his films make artistic statements. Yet he consistently shows an absolute disdain for coherence. In Cimino's world the words don't really matter as long as there are enough pretty pictures to look at. So it comes as no surprise that Cimino

co-authored the ridiculous screenplay (with Oliver Stone), a minor masterpiece of confusion. When it isn't illogical, the script is brimming over with cliché'd situations and ludicrous dialogue. Near the beginning of the film, a policeman tells a young television reporter that a recent killing has been brought on by "a situation where the youth gangs are rebelling against the Establishment." Oh, the profundities boggle the mind.

White, for all of his supposed nobility, is brutal and insensitive. He likes to wax philosophical about civilization's treatment of the Chinese, but still calls women "broad." In scene

after scene he imperils the lives of those closest to him, until his erstwhile lover (played with monotonous vacuity by someone called Ariane) screams at him: "You still don't get the message. How many people are you

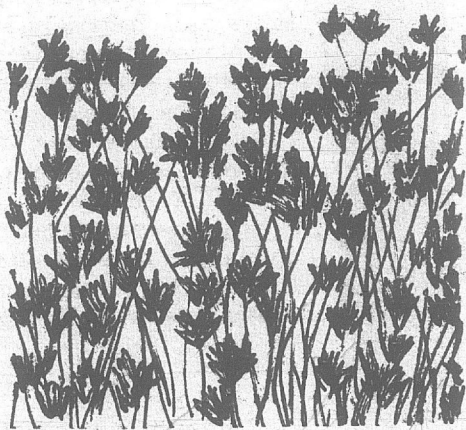
gonna kill before you die?" The real question at this point is: how many more of you idiots are going to let yourselves be killed before you heed your own words about Stanley? His relationship with the reporter Ariane is one of the film's

biggest mysteries. Her existence in the story serves little purpose beyond giving us a link between the killings (and there are many) and providing us with one of the most infantile non-sex scenes ever

continued on page 14

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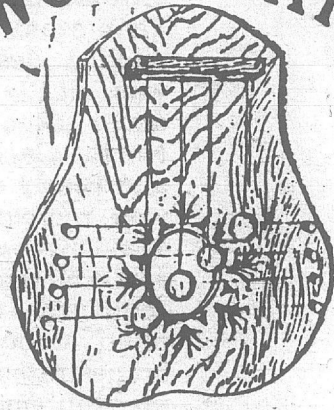
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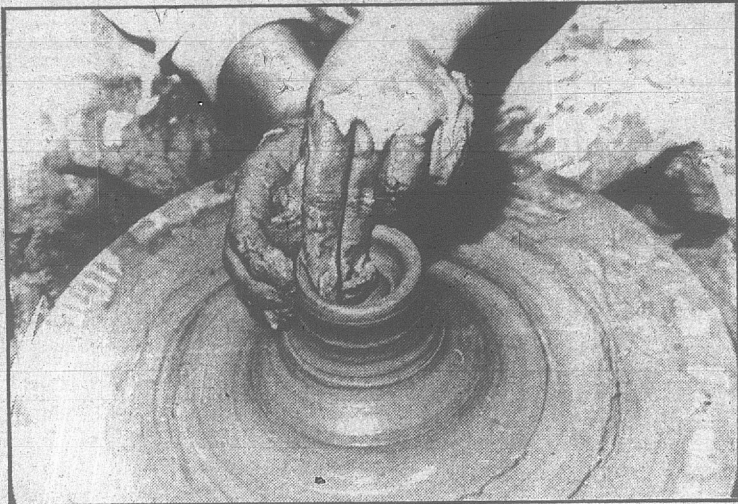
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Dragon

continued from page 13
filmed.

All of which points up, again, the absurdities of the screenplay, which gives us several pointless, boring and laughable history lessons in the place of real cogency. These little nuggets of arcadia mask the film's most upsetting aspect—the hypocrisy of what is, finally, a racist set of ideals. Unlike the two "Godfather" films, no attempt has been made here to humanize the Chinese villains by showing them in family situations. Clearly, this would muddle what is, for Cimino, a black and white proposition. But it isn't even daring in this respect: it's all pointless, it's all been said and done before, and after you've watched the only characters with any redeeming qualities get bumped off in the fifth reel, you begin asking yourself what the point is. What exactly is this Nam Soong we hear so much about? Why doesn't anyone but White believe in the existence of a Chinese mafia? Why are there two bloody, violent murders? Why does virtually every scene extend itself beyond its usefulness? Why do the actors switch from Chinese to English without so much as a fair-thee-well? "Why am I laughing", Ariane asks. Why, why, why?

Perhaps the most maddening thing about "The Year of the Dragon" is that, with all these debits you're still fascinated by it. There is plenty of well-crafted suspense, some astonishing images (courtesy of cinematographer Alex Thompson), a superb production design (the film was mostly shot at producer Dino deLaurentis' North Carolina studios and nearly every NYC set was recreated there) by Wolf Kroeger and even some of the more violent sequences are carefully, often astoundingly, well-orchestrated. I hate to find merit in violence, generally, but in a film like "The Year of the Dragon" you take your glories where you can get them.

As a come-back from a has-been director, I suppose "The Year of the Dragon" has some virtues. Coming from anyone else, the film would be appalling. But from Michael Cimino, it may be the best we can hope for. Talk about your diminishing returns.

SPORTS

Football rides high on pre-season hopes

By W. Walker Bardsley

The varsity football team, having toiled on the practice fields since the first of September, will open its season at Williams this Saturday at 2:00. The team is eager to begin winning football games again, having endured their first losing season in fifteen years last autumn. Their sole victory came in a close struggle against Bates.

Coach Michael "Mickey" Heineken, who has enjoyed a sparkling 64-31-1 record during his twelve seasons as varsity football coach, is candid in his assessment of last year. "The experience of losing was not fun. However, watching the responses of the players and the coaches was a growing experience. We hurt ourselves last year. We had about a three to one turnover ratio and we played sloppily and unintelligently at times. It was a strange season," the coach concludes.

To combat the tendency shown towards sloppy play last season, there has been a more professional atmosphere in this year's pre-season camp. "Last year we always had a lot of fun in practice but then we weren't always able to turn it on in the games," says returning defensive end Ed Homer. "This year we still have some fun in practice but we're more concerned with being prepared to execute in the game."

In last Saturday's controlled scrimmage against Trinity College at a neutral site in southern Vermont, there were encouraging signs of the team's improved execution. The offense, for example, was quite effective at controlling the football as senior running back Chris Sullivan spearheaded a strong rushing attack. Heineken labelled the scrimmage "even."

There will be five returning

starters from last year on offense this Saturday. Chris Sullivan, Jon Peterson, and co-captain Paul Morrison are returning as running back and Phillip Schneider and Kevin Besse are the returning guards. The starting quarterback will be either Andy Fellows or Tom Robertson, both of whom started at that position for the team last year.

Newcomers to the starting offense include juniors Anthony Amara and Liam Patterson at tackle, and junior John Zehner at center. Juniors Charlie Burchard and Mark Odom will start at tight end and split end respectively. Frank Zecca will try to play despite a minor ankle injury.

On defense the returning starters include ends Ed Homer and Kevin Conroy, and tackle Geoff Harlan on the line. Linebacker David Guerra, strong safety and co-captain Erin Quinn, and On defense the returning starters include ends Ed Homer and Kevin Conroy, and tackle Geoff Harlan on the line. Linebacker David Guerra, strong safety and co-captain Erin Quinn, as well as cornerback Joseph Ganley are also returning.

James Harasimowicz and sophomore John Thiess are all likely to see action at the two cornerback positions.

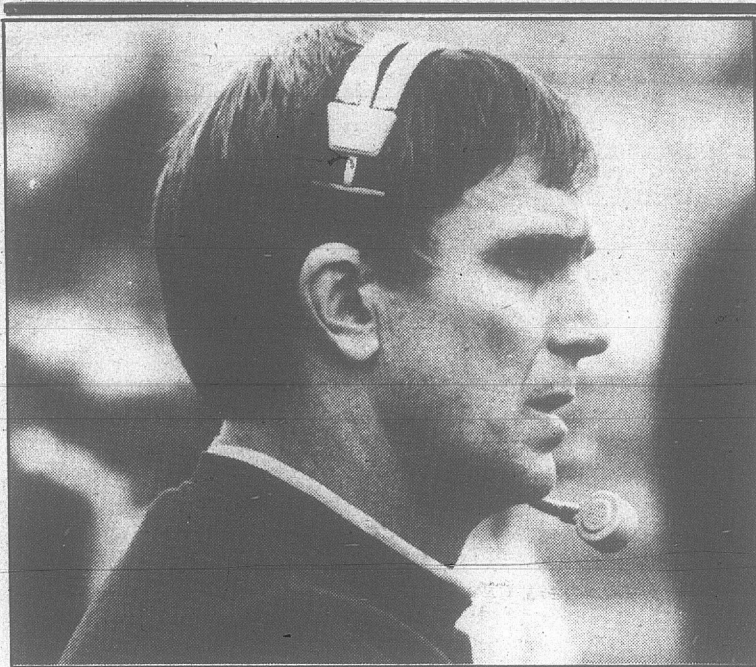
"The team is lean in some positions on the line," laments Heineken. The two regular defensive tackles, seniors Mike Wood and Greg Sipple are out with injuries. Wood is gone for the season with a severe knee injury and Sipple is not expected back in the lineup for at least four weeks. Moreover, nagging injuries may limit the playing time of offensive starters Schneider, Zecca, and Morrison.

The team this season is composed of twenty seniors, nineteen juniors, and twenty sophomores. Freshmen are not permitted to play on the varsity team.

Heineken makes no predictions for the upcoming season. However, he does say, "there is better ability all the way down the line this year. However, our opponents are strong and there is nobody you can sit back and take lightly. We need to improve on the little things. I'd like to see us perfect," he says, suggesting that the team will vastly improve on last year's 1-7 record.

This season's schedule includes four home games: Sept. 28 against Wesleyan, Oct. 12 against Bates, Oct. 26 against Hamilton, and Nov. 2 against Union. All games will be broadcast live on WRMC radio.

'Last year we always had a lot of fun in practice but then we weren't always able to turn it on in the games.'



Outlook for 1985: reserved but optimistic. (Photo by Fred Beckham)

'Our opponents are strong and there is nobody you can sit back and take lightly.'

The new starters on defense for Saturday's game include sophomore tackle Jeff Granatino, sophomore nose tackle Mike Glumicich, and junior linebacker Steve Kirkpatrick. Seniors John Aicher, Tim Frye, and junior

Men's soccer splits first two

By Shawn Ryan

The men's soccer team opened the fall sports season by splitting two games with Bates and Colby last Friday and Saturday. In the opener, new head coach David Seward's Panthers fell behind at 21:27 into the match when Bate's Justin Ward converted the first goal of the contest.

The game was deadlocked at halftime and much of the second half until junior Chris Parsons unleashed a 35-yard rocket that found its way into the upper-right-hand corner with eight and a half minutes remaining. Four minutes later, sophomore Tom Batelle put the game out of reach by placing an 18-yard volley past the outstretched hands of the Bates goalkeeper.

Middlebury fought back, however, and notched the score at one apiece when freshman Eric Vignes dribbled past two Bates defenders and poked the ball past the onrushing goalkeeper at the 26:18 mark.

The 3-1 victory was the first Middlebury coaching win for David Seward and also marked the first varsity goals for both Vignes and Batelle.

The next day against Colby, the Panther's luck ran out when their comeback attempt failed in an exciting 3-2 loss. Middlebury came back from deficits of 1-0 and 2-1 with goals by Vignes and

sophomore Steve Russell, but Colby struck last with 11 minutes remaining to pull ahead 3-2. The Panthers pressed the Colby goal relentlessly the last 11 minutes, but failed to put the ball in the back of the netting.

The loss left the Middlebury men with a 1-1 record as they prepare to embark on a four-game road trip against Williams, UVM, Dartmouth and Babson. The Panthers return home on Oct. 5 against Thomas College.



Junior Chris Parsons shields ball from Bates player. (Photo by Fred Beckham)

Women drop one to Bates

By Christina Valar

The Middlebury women's soccer team suffered a tough loss Saturday in their season opener against Bates. The three Bates goals in the first half stayed unchallenged, even though the Middlebury women managed to shore up their defenses for the remainder of the game. The final tally of the contest put Bates over Middlebury 3-0.

All three of the opponents' goals were scored in the first half, due to what coach Russ Reilly called "flat" playing. "They were our mistakes - we were weak defensively and had broken opportunities on the offense." During the scoreless second half Middlebury was well within striking range on many occasions, but luck was not with them.

This year's team has many talented individuals. With a little more continuity in their game, these Panther women will surely bounce back from this initial disappointment. Their next home game is scheduled for Wed., Sept. 25 with Williams.

Hockey opener a success

By Marybeth Costello

The women's varsity field hockey team started their season off well by defeating Bates 3-1 last Saturday. Two goals were scored in the first half, the first by senior Barbie MacLeod, and the second by sophomore Pam Lawson.

Sara Buffum assisted on both goals and later, in the second half, scored the third on a penalty stroke. Bates scored early in the second half, but junior goalie Ellen Sheffield made three saves denying them any more.

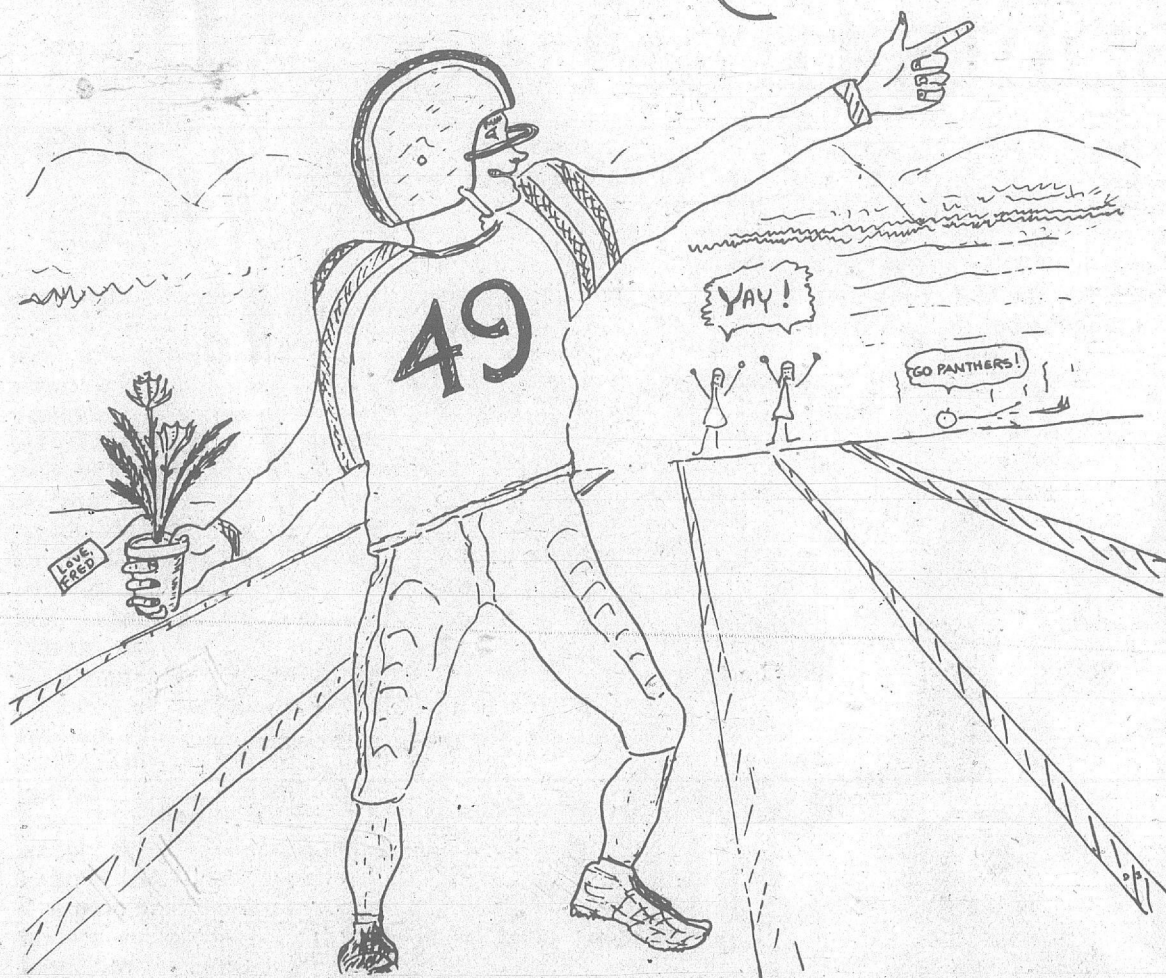
Coach Missy Hopkinson said she wanted the team to

combinations on the field. The women took Hopkinson's advice and got the team off to a good start on a winning season. The Panthers will travel to Wesleyan tomorrow for their third game.



Panther field hockey player slashes for the ball. (Photo by Michelle Marie Millin)

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Runners stomp Williams

Men win
at home

By David Toman

Prior to the cross country race on Saturday, pitting the men of Middlebury against Williams, an onlooker asked a question. The question, addressed to coach Terry Aldrich, referred to the strength of the Williams team. Coach Aldrich's reply was a terse "We've never beaten them." Aldrich's voice betrayed the tension of having a chance to best Williams at the Panthers' first meet of the season. Having come within a bitter single point of Williams in the past, there was no doubt about the thoughts of the runners last Saturday. The men of Middlebury pounded out a resounding 21 to 42 point win.

Talking to coach Aldrich and team captain Scott Campbell after the meet, I found that each stressed the team's preparedness for the race. The team, heavily laden with seniors, was undoubtedly mentally ready for a shot at their rivals from Williams. Physically, the team was also well prepared, thanks to a pre-season training camp where coach Aldrich focused on giving the runners a "great base." Both coach and captain also cited the team's togetherness and great depth as reasons for the Panthers being a contender in the NESCAC this season.

Individually, the team was led by freshman Will Beebe. Beebe, who ran what coach Aldrich termed "an exceptional race." Beebe toured the tough 5.3 mile course in 29:38. He finished second overall, only seven seconds after the top Williams runner, a senior. Using Scott Campbell's words, the win was a strong team effort, and one long overdue.

Women victorious

By Kathy Donohue

A cool, crisp autumn day was the perfect setting for the women's cross country team's triple victory in their opening meet last Saturday. The score was Middlebury 22, Bates 57, Williams 67, and Albany 91, and it clearly illustrates the team's strength this season. Middlebury placed their top six runners before any of the other teams second runners had crossed the finish line.

Leading the women over the 3.25 mile Williams course was All-American Dorcas Denhartog, with an easy victory in 19:41. Captain Tina Ilgner held off Williams' top runner for a second place finish overall in 20:51. She showed again that a recent injury has not hampered her running ability which was proven by her third place finish in the 1500 meter race at the NCAA Division Three Nationals this spring. Senior Caroline Curran ran a strong race, finishing fifth with much improved junior Sally Evans right behind her in sixth. Rounding out the top five for Middlebury was senior Kathy Donohue in eighth place with senior Lilly Shuell finishing a close ninth. Other outstanding performances were turned in by juniors Marty Illich and Betsy Bass as well as sophomore Allison Kierstead. Freshmen Molly Rath and Helene Fichardson both got off to a great start in their Middlebury running careers.

The cross country team attended training camp this year, and the additional practice is already paying off. The harriers are eager to prove that they will remain one of the top cross country teams in New England again this year.

Ruggers shape up for season-long showdown

By Gordon Tichell

The 1985 Middlebury men's rugby club will kick off its season tomorrow at Williams College.

The club, lead by senior co-captains Richard Lyne, Robert Pless, and Andrew Westcott, is looking for a successful season after last year's disappointing injuries and losses.

To improve the team's performance, there has been an increased emphasis on fitness and conditioning — particularly running and sprinting. Last year we sloughed

off on fitness towards the end of the year, which hurt the team," said Lyne.

The early season practices have been geared towards in-

'experience is much more important than raw talent'

itiating the new club members, who are mostly sophomores and freshmen, to the rules of the game. Most new members have had no experience in rugby before com-

ing to Middlebury. Those players with prior experience such as Westcott, juniors Foreman Wickes and Scott Jones, as well as sophomore Jed Smith, are important shapers of the club's talents.

"Rugby is a game where experience is much more important than raw talent," said Smith.

So far the team looks excellent. The A team, consists of seniors George Elroy, Al McDonald, Pless, Doug Bridges, John Soderberg, Dave Turner, Scott Langerman, and sophomore Nick Von Moltke in the pack. In

the back will be juniors Wickes, Jones, seniors Wescott, Chris Winters, Lyne, junior Al Smiley, and sophomore Jed Smith.

After last Saturday's intra-squad scrimmage the captains are "confident that we can do well, and if we stay healthy there is no reason we shouldn't win all our games." Says Lyne, "The forwards have had another year of ex-

perience and are working well together and the backs are very fast." There are also some very talented freshmen joining the club, which includes eighty members.

If the team can avoid injuries and stay in good physical shape, this year should be highly successful. The club is also hoping for good spectator support at the games.

Women's tennis pounds Bates

By Sue Church and Missy Geisler

Middlebury's women's varsity tennis team had outstanding results at their first match against Bates College last Saturday. The women pounded to a strong victory, with every team member victorious in both doubles and singles.

Coach Gail Smith claims the team "looks strong... there's a lot of depth. It's the strongest team we've had in awhile, even though we lost our number one seed from last year's team." The results of the recent match is as follows: the number one player junior Jan Ondaatje trounced Elhom 6-0, 6-2; Senior co-captain Bessie Cromwell beat Niit 6-3, 4-6, 7-5; sophomore Amy Sheldon went to three sets against Dyt 6-4, 4-6, 6-3. Junior Patty Ricciardelli came out on top against Bates' Joseph 7-5, 6-3. Sophomore Paula Ricciardelli, mounting a strong comeback, beat Orem 1-6, 6-3, 6-3. Freshman Sonya Vanderaa had a tough match with Orem 1-6, 6-3, 6-3.

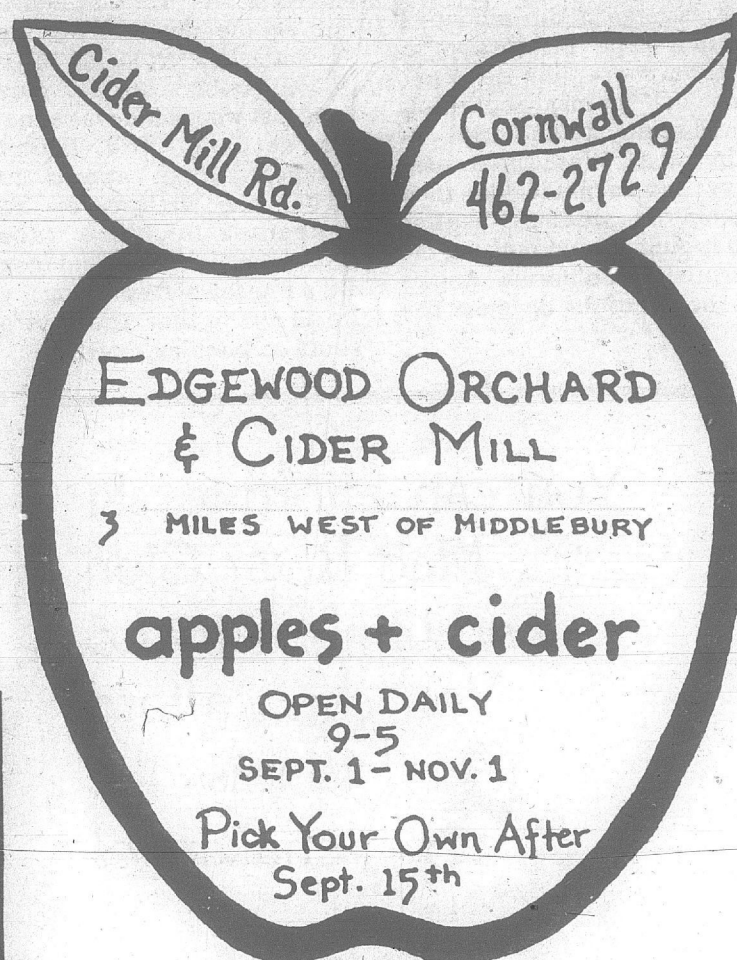
In the doubles matches Ondaatje and Cromwell defeated Parker and Potts, 6-0, 6-1. Paula Ricciardelli and co-captain Ceci Thoren defeated Elhjern and Danielson, 6-4, 6-1. Cindy Rilter and Becky Hart, a first year senior, defeated Joseph and Bauer, 6-2, 6-2.

Coach Smith feels that the team's pre-season significantly aided the women in their outstanding performances. The intense training consisted of various conditioning activities, including 7:00 A.M.

runs, biking, swimming and up to six hours of tennis daily. Coach Smith says the goal of their week-long session was to "get into outstanding condition, both mentally and physically. It was a chance for the girls to get some of the 'match jitters' out their systems. As a result of the camp, Coach Smith feels the team is in the good mental and physical condition. Judging from the results of the team's first match, they should have a very successful season.

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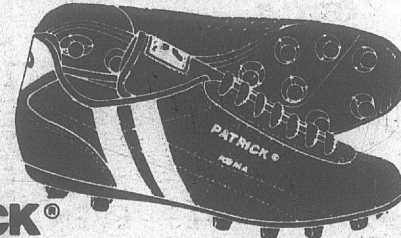
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Dr. Q. Wexler hits with baseball

By Dan Wexler

Heading into the season's final two weeks, Major League baseball's divisional races have taken final shape with one division (the National League West) all but wrapped up and the other three locked in close races. The NL offsets the Dodger's runaway in the West with perhaps the closest race of all — the Eastern battle between the NY Mets and the St. Louis Cardinals. These two teams have had a monopoly on first place since late spring with no more than three and one-half games separating them at any point since.

In the AL West, the Kansas City Royals made like their hometown weather, heating up in August and burning the surprising California Angels at the top of the division. The

Angels, without a single player batting over .300 or a starting pitcher with an ERA under 3.00, represent a last hurrah of sorts for future Hall-of-Famers Rod Carew and Reggie Jackson, two of the era's finest.

Meanwhile, in the Bronx, the Yankees, once ten and one-half games out of first place (and nine and one-half out after the all-star break) became baseball's hottest team in July and August and closed within a game and a half of the division, leading Toronto. Though losing three of four at home to the Blue Jays last weekend was a major setback, the Bronx Bombers would appear to have the firepower to guarantee a close race through September. And they did a fine job of disproving my April claim that they were short on pitching as well.

Looking down the stretch, here is a major factor to remember: the contenders in each division will face each other head to head three more times. The Mets travel to St. Louis for games on October 1, 2 and 3 while California visits Kansas City on those same three days. And in what could prove to be the season's most dramatic finish, the Yankees end their year with three dates in Toronto on October 4, 5 and 6.

Though Major League Baseball was smart enough not to give this writer a vote, here are my picks for league MVPs and Cy Young winners: the National League awards would appear to be pretty much decided with the incomparable Dwight Gooden, baseball's greatest-ever 20 year old, seemingly a lock for the Cy Young, and LA's Pedro Guerrero a heavy favorite for the MVP. Gooden's phenomenal statistics and a lack of publicity for his primary challenger, St. Louis John Tudor (attention Red Sox fans!) figure to result in a Gooden runaway, while Guerrero is unquestionably the league's most valuable player. A darkhorse in the latter category might well be a late-charging Gary Carter, particularly if the Mets prevail in the East.

The AL Cy Young award should come down to New York's perennial candidate Ron Guidry and Kansas City's surprising Bret Saberhagen. Though Saberhagen's numbers are slightly better than Guidry's, the Guidry name (and the fact that he has always gotten

along well with the press) may well be enough to bring both Cy Young trophies to New York. The MVP award should also come down to two players, with Don Mattingly and George Brett being the likely finalists. Though fans of Wade Boggs, Lou Whitaker, George Bell and Eddie Murray might disagree, Mattingly and Brett simply are operating at a slightly higher level. My vote goes to Mattingly, if only for the fact that he fields his position slightly better than Brett does his.

Interestingly, neither apparent batting champion (Willie McGee and Boggs) figured highly, with Boggs, especially, falling well back in the pack. With an average in the mid .380's, there is no question that Boggs handles a bat as well as anyone around. However, without ranking in the top ten in HRs or slugging percentage, Boggs simply cannot be compared with powerhouses like Brett, Mattingly or Eddie Murray. To use an old system of evaluation, if you had to start a team around one player, which one would you choose?

Finally, two potentially interesting developments have taken place recently and could have a major impact down the stretch. The Yankees acquired left-handed reliever Rod Scurry from the Pirates last week for a player to be named later. With righty Brian Fisher emerging as a bullpen stopper, are the Yanks considering trying to enhance their starting pitching by moving fastballer Dave Righetti back

into the rotation? In Los Angeles, the Dodgers spent last weekend being awfully quiet about the condition of Pedro Guerrero's wrist, which was injured when he crashed into a railing. Needless to say, without Guerrero in the lineup, the Dodgers begin to look like the weakest of the contending teams.

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Curriculum committee advice

continued from page 1

The proposed freshman seminars consisting of small courses (limited to 15 students) on a variety of topics are designed to "give people a chance for a small seminar experience" according to Lopez, chairman of the Special Committee on the Curriculum and associate professor of religion. Often freshmen elect a large lecture course instead of seminars. He said that these seminars will be possible with the present staff at the College.

Eric L. Davis, member of the Special Committee and associate professor of political science, emphasized the importance of the freshman seminar. "Some students need more than just one (writing) course." He said that the freshman seminars will guarantee all freshmen two chances to hone their writing skills and provide closer interaction with a faculty member who will also act as their academic advisor.

A sophomore core course will be required of every member of the sophomore class if the faculty and trustees agree to follow the suggestions in the Committee's report. This course will provide a common intellectual background for the class and focus on the "seminal ideas and texts of the Western tradition" and how they apply in "understanding the human condition."

Davis said about the sophomore core course, "We feel that there should be more commonality among Middlebury students than is now the case." He said that the faculty hopes this course will encourage students to talk more outside of class and provide a common element in students' curriculum during the Winter trimester as sophomores begin to take courses towards their major. Due to its size, this course would be held in Mead Chapel.

Rockefeller said "I have

concerns about the sophomore core course. I'm not sure that it's more appropriate for freshmen." However, he added that "The Middlebury B. A. degree ought to have a clearer definition as to what it signifies with respect to students' education."

The present list of foundations courses will be pared to a total of 16, four each in four divisions. These courses will be similar in content to those the College now has.

Davis said about the proposed smaller number of foundations courses, "There is and there isn't less choice under this program." Although less courses will be offered under the proposed system than at present, he explained that 16 foundations courses in all will provide students with choice.

"It's (the Curriculum report) unlikely to pass as a package," said Landgren. He said that the report is subject to dispute among the faculty. The fate of this report depends on how interested the faculty is in defining the College's academic goals. He said "There are faculty who are unhappy with foundations and concentrations as they are now and as they have been proposed."

Senior work will be required of all departments in an effort to involve all seniors in completing a "substantial piece of senior work before graduation." At present only some departments require cumulative senior work.

The report also suggests the implementation of a Tuesday convocation. The hour before lunch each Tuesday will provide a College-wide lecture of interest.

This report will probably be the focus of controversy among faculty, administration and students alike. Anyone interested in pursuing the implications of this report in more detail should

consider reading a copy in its entirety. Copies are available for students at the Information Desk and on reserve at the library.

A Student Forum meeting will convene in Warner Hemicycle on Sunday, Sept. 22 with members of the special committee present. This meeting will provide a formal channel for students to convey their views to some faculty members about the curricular changes under discussion.

The Special Committee on the Curriculum was formed to help redefine the tradition of liberal education by President Robison in March of 1985. This report intends to help modern students more fully integrate knowledge.

Members of the Committee besides Lopez and Davis include John Berninghausen, chairman of the Chinese department, John Elder, associate professor of English (on leave fall and winter terms), John Emerson, chairman of mathematics and political science, Robert Pack, professor of English, and Richard Wolfson, acting chairman of physics.

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SCIENCE

By Ursula Kotlow

The Biology and Physics departments have each received a grant from the National Science foundation. Last year, the NSF received 1,348 proposals for grant funds totaling \$5 million to be awarded through the College Science Instrumentation Program. Only 17 per cent of the proposals submitted nationwide were selected for funding. A total of 234 grants were awarded. Middlebury College was one of the few colleges to receive two such grants. The College will be setting aside funds as well to match both of the grants received.

The Biology department received close to \$36,000. The funds have been used to purchase new equipment to "improve laboratory instruction and opportunities for independent study and Honors research in cellular biology, genetics, microbiology, and physiology," according to the proposal.

Light photomicrography equipment was purchased which will give students the opportunity to photograph the microscopic images viewed in the laboratory. Dual-viewing microscopes were also obtained which will allow lab instructors and students to view the same microscopic slide simultaneously.

The microbiology and genetics laboratories will greatly benefit by the two new incubators for microorganismal growth. One of the new incubators will also be equipped with illumination for the growth and study of photosynthetic microorganisms. Students will be able to observe differences in growth and metabolism of microorganisms by altering the controlled settings for temperature, pH, rate of aeration, and light quality within the incubator. A new

anaerobic work station will be available that will make possible the study of organisms that would die under normally oxygen-rich conditions. Equipment for the analysis and storage of cells, organelles of cells, and macromolecules has been obtained including a UV-Vis spectrophotometer, an ultralow freezer, and an ultracool freezing apparatus that will allow rapid preservation and storage of materials to -80° C.

New physiological animal activity monitoring units which can interface with personal computers have been purchased. These will allow monitoring of animal behavior, oxygen consumption, and other activities. Because these systems can be set up and left for hours at a time, more accurate data will be obtained over a longer monitoring time. These new systems will overcome many of the time constraints and mechanical problems encountered with the manually operated in the past. The new equipment will greatly enhance the laboratory design possibilities for both students doing their senior thesis projects and for professors who organize laboratory activities for the various biology courses.

The Physics department will also have a great deal more flexibility in course work. With a \$28,000 award from the NSF, they have purchased a state-of-the-art laser spectroscopy system. The proposal cited that this particular laser system "would provide a major improvement in educational opportunities to current majors in our department and would help project a more modern image to prospective majors in introductory courses." Also, emphasis was placed on the benefits this would give

seniors working on their required year-long independent research projects. It was also felt that this new laser equipment would better prepare students for graduate study in physics.

This laser spectroscopy system consists of a nitrogen pump laser and two tunable dye lasers as well as a microcomputer for data acquisition and control. Experiments focusing on high resolution spectroscopy, time-resolved fluorescence studies, and two-photon polarization spectroscopy will be possible in the near future. Also, members of the Biology, Chemistry, and Geology departments may find the laser spectroscopy system useful in chemical analysis and fluorescence studies of complex molecules.

The system is sensitive to environmental conditions. A floatation table which is suspended on a cushion of compressed air was also acquired through the grant. This prevents vibrational interference from passers-by and outside traffic. Also, a room had to be especially prepared to accommodate the new system. The walls and floor were coated with a sealant to minimize dust accumulation, changes in humidity and temperature fluctuations. The new system, although sensitive, was chosen for its modular design which will minimize maintenance costs.

With the acquisition of this new equipment and the consequently improved applications possible in laboratory session, both the Physics and the Biology departments will be better able to furnish students with a more practical understanding of theory presented in class. With the newer equipment, less time will be required for tedious data collection and mechanical adjustments on equipment. Instead, a stronger emphasis on creative experimental design and laboratory discussion of data will be possible.

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